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Nigella Lawson wonders why Currie is too hot to handle PAGE 17

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MYTH OR MAGIC? John Lloyd takes the long road to holistic medicine PAGE 17



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引逐 How to switch on to TV's digital revolution INTERFACE

Death penalty fears for colleague as Saudi court verdict is condemned

British nurse to be flogged over murder

By MICHAEL THEODOULOU, MICHAEL BINYON AND DANIEL McGRORY

A BRITISH nurse was sentenced to 500 lashes and eight years in jail by a Saudi court yesterday for being an accessory to the murder of a colleague. The verdict raised the prospect that her friend had been convicted of murder, which carries a mandatory death penalty.

The sentence on 31-year-old Lucille McLauchlan was immediately condemned by her family, the Government and human rights groups. Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, said that he was deeply disturbed at the sentence, which was "wholly unacceptable in a modern world". He said the Government would put pressure on the Saudis not to carry

out the flogging. Neither McLauchlan nor her co-accused, Deborah Parry, 38, was allowed into the Al Khobar court for the half-hour hearing yesterday at which three judges ruled that McLauchlan should be lashed with a cane in batches of 25 "over a specified period".

British diplomats who were was not mentioned. But lawyers for the victim's family said that they had been told that she had been found guilty of murdering the Australian staff nurse Yvonne Gilford and would face the death penalty - although officials insisted that the sentence

would not be carried out. Lawyers were unable to visit the two women in the Damman Central Prison to tell them about the court's ruling yesterday, but a lawyer



Gilford: stabbed. beaten and smothered

for McLauchlan said that they would probably have heard on the radio or from their guards. They will obviously be devastated and sick with worry."

Miss Gilford, who was said to have run a usurous moneylending operation at the King Fahd military complex in Dhahran where all three worked, was bludgeoned, smothered and stabbed in her bedroom last December.

The two British nurses conthat their victim had gone at them with a knife. McLauchlan told police that she held Miss Gilford down and muffled her cries with a pillow while Parry stabbed her 13 rimes. But the nurses later retracted their confessions. claiming that they had been made under duress.

Under Saudi law, murder is punishable by beheading and only the nearest male relative of the victim has the right to the sentence being commuted.

Miss Gilford's brother, Frank, has repeatedly refused to waive that right, but there were suggestions last night that he had now done so.

From the start, Saudi authorities have recognised that the case must be handled with extraordinary diplomatic delicacy as they sought to recon-cile the conflicting demands of upholding Islamic justice and avoiding any new rupture in relations with the West.

The Saudis have been meticulous in ensuring that the nurses had as much access to lawyers as they would have been done had their case been tried in a Western secular court - lawyers do not normally appear for defendants in Saudi courts. The authorities also granted visas to the nurses' parents and kept the British Embassy informed.

To do more - such as allowing Western observers to the trial - would have compromised the nature of Islamic justice in the eyes of most Saudis. And yesterday's judgment was clearly intended to Saudi Arabia treats Westerners more leniently than its own citizens. The judges therefore had little alternative but to apply the normal sentence once the women were found guilty. This is, however, only the first stage in an appeal procedure that could take two years. Lawyers for McLauchlan have already told the court that they will appeal.

McLauchlan's parents appeared outside their Dundee home yesterday to urge Tony



Deborah Parry is believed to have been convicted of murder, her accessory Lucille McLauchlan faces 500 lashes

pressure" on the Gaudi authorities saying they found the court's decision absolutely unbelievable. They have have been reached on the strength of those forced confessions because there has not been one shred of evidence against either nurse in court.

They have not had a trial." Saudi sources said that McLauchlan was likely to serve only half her sentence. but there was no precedent for her to be transferred to a British jail. The lashes were likely to be inflicted over a period of months.

The Foreign Secretary, how-

ever, said that he was hopeful that the flogging might never dismissed suggestions of a diplomatic row with Saudi We are not talking at all about the commercial relationship. We are trying to save a woman from getting these 500 lashes.

Amnesty International also joined the chorus of condemnation, saying: "Flogging is cruel and barbaric and it must not be allowed to happen. The victim is given time to recover then beaten again. They are scarred for life.

In the meantime, Parry's Saudi lawyer insisted that she would be spared because Miss Gillord's brother had agreed to waive the death penalty. Salah al-Hejailan said: "An agreement has been reached him and his lawyers, and signed also by the nurses. That agreement has some terms and conditions that we cannot disclose for the time being, but I must say that all of us are quite pleased and happy with the terms and conditions that have been signed finally after some nego-

tiation in Australia." Neither of the families nor the Foreign Office knew anything about the deal last night. but the Saudi Ambassador in gestions that Parry, who comes from Alton, Hampshire, would be executed. Di Ghazi Algosaibi also said that Jijoro nao agreeo a o and he pointed out that both women had three more avenues of appeal. "There will be no question of the death penalty being imposed at any point in the proceedings."

Saudi lawyers for the Gilford family were pleased. The court has worked long and hard to reach these verdicts. It has been an honour to participate in seeing justice

Saudi murder case, pages 2, 3

INSIDE

Ashdown wants a free hand

Paddy Ashdown will today urge the Liberal Democrat conference in Eastbourne not to tie his hands over further links with Labour.

The Lib Dem leader will say that he intends to work more closely with Labour when that would benefit his own party, such as on the constitution, a single currency and Northern

£45.000 award for dyslexic

Pamela Phelps, 23, who left school with a reading age of seven, won damages of more than £45,000 from the London borough of Hillingdon, which failed to diagnose her dys-

She said she hoped to become a computer programmer and would spend the money on her education and taking GCSEs......Page 7 GCSEs

Cook provokes row over UN

Robin Cook got into a spat with a right-wing Ameri-can senator after insisting that Washington should pay its debt of \$1.5 billion to the United Nations "in full and on time".

A spokesman for Senator Jesse Helms described the Foreign Secretary's comment as "absolutely not helpful".... Pages 14, 21

Algerian rebels butcher 85

Muslim rebels butchered at least 85 civilians in the suburbs of Algiers, accord-

ing to security forces. However, residents of Bentoumi-Bentalha said that up to 200 were burnt to death or had their throats cut by fundamentalists battling to overthrow the military-backed regime... ... Page 12



Flying rodent

A BA flight from Johannes-burg to London flight was cancelled after a stewardess saw what she thought was a rat on board

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Frosty first meeting for Unionists and Sinn Fein

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER, CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

ULSTER Unionist Party leaders made history by sitting at the same conference table as Sinn Fein for the first time vesterday, but they emphatically rejected what Gerry Adams called his hand of friendship".

David Trimble, the UUP's leader, did not shake the Sinn Fein president's hand, speak to him or communicate with him in any way during the long-awaited "Stormont showdown" - the two parties' first encounter at the multi-party peace talks.

He instead sat silently at the opposite corner of the large square table for 45 minutes while his fellow UUP MP. Ken Maginnis. read out a sevenpage indictment challenging the British and Irish governments to expel Sinn Fein from the talks. He claimed Sinn Fein was inseparable from the IRA which had rejected the Mitchell principles of democracy and non-violence.

The UUP delegation walked

finished. While Sinn Fein responded to the indictment inside the conference room Mr held a press conference outside in which they denounced Adams and Martin McGuinness. Sinn Fein's chief negotiator, as "unreconstructed murderers" and "godfathers of the terrorism that has wracked this province for the last 25 years".

Adams and Mr McGuinness emerged an hour later and said the way the UUP had presented its indictment then "scampered out" to the media without waiting for Sinn Fein's reply showed the whole exercise was a "sham" and a "charade".

They said they could tolerate such conduct if that was the only way the Unionists could break their old taboo about talking to Sinn Fein. but the UUP now had to stop playacting and begin serious negotiations. This was a matter of life or death", not soundbites, Mr Adams said.

Dialogue was the only way forward.

Mo Mowlam, the Northern Ireland Secretary, noted this was the first time leading Unionists, loyalists, national-ists and republicans had ever come together in the same room and called it "another step forward", but some commentators compared the meeting to that of James Craig. Northern Ireland's first prime minister, and Michael Collins, father of the IRA, in 1922. Describing that meeting. Churchill said the two men "glowered magnificently" at

The two governments will almost certainly reject the UUP's indictment today, and Mr Trimble tacitly accepted as much. He insisted that the LIUP would remain in the talks process but continue to spurn Sinn Fein. He suggested it was pos-

sible for the UUP and the other parties to achieve a settlement with Sinn Fein's Continued on page 2, col 8

Computer glitch delays Briton's land speed record bid

Hague boost for women at polls

By James Landale, political reporter

could be forced for the first time to include women on their shortlists when selecting parliamentary candidates under radical plans being considered by William Hague. Although the Tory leader has ruled out the discredited. women-only shortlists once favoured by Labour, he has recognised that the party must look at ways of boosting the

LOCAL Tory associations

number of Tory women candidates. One option, employed by the Liberal Democrats, would require local associations to include at least one woman on their lists. The introduction of positive discrimination in the selection

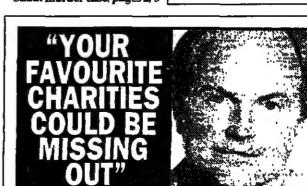
process would amount to an unprecedented switch in Conservative policy and would anger grassroots activists who are protective of their independence to choose candidates without interference from Central Office. They would regard the move as a concession to political correctness. The proposals appear in the

reform Green Paper, drawn up by Archie Norman, the Tory vice-chairman. It will be published at the party conference in Blackpool

Senior Tory sources empha-sised that a firm decision had not been made but acknowledged that some elements of positive discrimination were being considered. This is the sort of thing the party needs to discuss," one source said.

They confirmed that women-only shortlists were not favoured. That former Labour policy, which prevented men representing some constituencies, was declared illegal when an industrial tribunal declared it amounted to sexual discrimination.

Although women form the majority of Tory party activists, they have traditionally balked at selecting women candidates. In 1992, only 63 Tory women candidates were picked, rising to 69 this year. In contrast, Labour fielded 138



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Andy Green drives the Thrust supersonic car across the Black Rock Desert in Nevada. Last night's attempt at the land speed record was aborted despite the car reaching 693mph. Page 13 Photograph: David Taylor/ALLSPORT

HIV immigrant sues council for housing

An illegal immigrant from Brazil who is HIV positive is to sue Brent council in northwest London for refusing to provide him with free housing and food. The man, who stayed in Britain after his visa ran out, is bringing the case after claiming that he was made destitute when his landlord evicted him and because he lost his job when he went into

The council has refused to provide the unnamed man with food and accommodation because he is not normally resident in the district and he is not entitled to social security benefits because he is an illegal immigrant. The outcome of the case, which will be heard at the High Court later this year, will decide whether other councils, particularly those in the capital, have to fund tourists who have overstayed their entry permit and declare themselve destitute. Both the Home Office and the Department of Health are aware of the case, which was originally taken up by a leading Aids charity. Both departments are supporting the council's efforts to resist the application.

BBC apologises to Irish

The producers of the soap opera EastEnders apologised after more than 150 callers complained to the BBC about the "stereotyped and prejudiced" representation of Irish life in an episode on Monday. It showed a trip by Pauline Fowler, played by Wendy Richard, to meet her long-lost half-sister Maggie in Ireland which one caller to an Irish radio station said showed the Irish as "dirty, drunk or backward".

Fines for idling engines

Motorists will be fined for allowing their car engines to idle unnecessarily under measures to reduce city-centre pollu-tion. A one-year trial will begin next year in Birmingham, Bristol, Canterbury, Glasgow, Middlesbrough, Swansea and Westminster. Fixed penalty tickets of £20 - rising to £40 if not paid within 28 days — will be issued to drivers who refuse to switch off their engines.

Treasure law buried

The law of treasure trove that has governed the discovery of relics for 750 years was consigned to history at midnight. The Government claimed that new legislation - with fines for those not declaring a discovery within 14 days - would better protect finds and end confusion. Treasure now includes objects more than 300 years old and containing more than 10 per cent gold or silver. Finders may get rewards.

Dangerous restraint

A woman was restrained for up to 50 minutes using a technique that has since been challenged as dangerous, an inquest at York was told yesterday. Zoe Fairley, 2I, was held down by the "prone restraint procedure" in a care home in the city by up to four social workers after she attempted to attack one of them in September 1995. They relaxed their grip only when she ceased struggling. The hearing continues.

Freight train derailed

Severe disruption to rail services was caused when a 70mph freight train was derailed, tearing down power lines and ripping up large sections of a commuter line. Eight out of 21 wagons left the track near Chelmsford, Essex, but nobody was injured. Bus services were provided between Chelmsford and Colchester and passengers to Liverpool Street have been told to expect delays for a couple of days.

Confused defendants baffled by court rules

No charges heard and 20 minutes

to explain, writes Daniel McGrory

THROUGHOUT their trial Deborah Parry and Lucille McLauchlan sat at the back of the courtroom in Al Khobar bewildered as to what the evidence was against them.

In four months of hearings they were allowed to speak for only 20 minutes and that was to tell how their confessions were coerced by sexual and physical threats from their interrogators after they were stripped. They were never told what they were accused of as

under Saudi law the charges are revealed only at the end alone with the verdict and sentence. Reports were leaked to

the local press by investigating officers hinting darkly about lesbian relationships and moneylending rackets at the King Fahd medical complex but neither suggestion was ever tested, let alone proved, in

Sensitive to outside criticism about the fairness of its opaque judiciary, the Saudis were determined to avoid the diplomatic rift that followed the 1980 television documentary Death of a Princess, which showed the execution of a Saudi royal for adultery.

Privately Saudi diplomats scorned endless speculation about the women being publically beheaded, and legal history was made by allowing a prominent Riyadh lawyer. Salah Al Hejailan, to speak on the women's behalf.

The defence team seized on this opportunity to complain to King Fahd that they were never allowed to contest what they describe as "flawed evidence". Instead the three judges merely studied the reports submitted by the investigation team.

The nurses' families are disappointed that assurances were not kept that the women would be able to have their say in court. Mrs Anne McLauchlan, Lucille's mother, said "That didn't happen. The girls did not have a fair trial. They did not have any sort of trial at all.

The families know these girls, they cherish life and could not take it away like this." Miss Parry's sister. Sandra Ashbee, said: "I don't recognise the Deborah the Saudis portray. No one is more caring. No forensic

evidence was ever produced proving either of the **INSIDE THE** women were in Miss Gilford's bedroom on the night of

December 11 when the 55-yearold staff nurse was beaten. smothered and stabbed 13 The police have never disclosed the precise motive for

the killing on December 11. They hinted that Yvonne Gilford misused her position as the senior nurse to withhold salary cheques from her staff thereby forcing them to borrow money from her at exorbitant rates. This has never been At the time of her death she

was considering lending a Filipino nurse nearly £3,000. Senior officers later leaked a report to a leading Saudi newspaper that Miss Gilford and Parry were involved in a lesbian relationship which the Briton wanted to end.

The only thing that all three families involved in this murder are agreed on is that none of the women was a lesbian. Detectives allege that Parry went to Miss Gilford's bedroom where a row began. As the argument became more heated they were joined by McLauchlan.

All three women were in the nightclothes and in their disputed confessions one admit-



Dead woman was 'bullying tyrant'

MANY of Yvonne Gilford's colleagues in Dhahran regarded her with fear and loathing (Daniel McGrory writes). They disputed the image of the 55-year-old staff nurse as having sacrificed her personal life for her career and described her as a tyrant and a bully.

Lawyers for the two Britons spoke to nurses at the King Fahd complex, who told how Miss Gilford withheld their pay cheques so that she might lend them money at exorbitant interest rates, and had demanded sex from some. Days before her death she had confided to a Western colleague that she was scared of some of the security men who guarded the King Fahd complex and ran similar money-lending schemes. Miss Gilford

ted to hitting Miss Gilford

with a teapot. Police stressed

how a broken teapot was

run to her kitchen where she

produced a knife to defend

herself. The two Britons are

said to have forced her on to

her bed where McLauchlan

held a pillow over her face to

stifle her cries while Parry

The most damning evidence

against the Britons was the allegation that police followed

stabbed her 13 times.

Miss Gilford is said to have

found in the room.

THE VICTIM

said that she had been threatened by the

Brought up on a remote sheep farm in Yunta, 250 miles north of Adelaide, Miss Gilford began nursing in Melbourne and New Zealand before moving to England for five years and then spending 20 years in South Africa. A former colleague. Gay Wiggill, matron of the Brenthurst Clinic in Johannesburg, described her as "an absolutely dedicated nurse who gave her life to her work".

Her only meaningful relationship was in South Africa with Owen Joyce, a businessman. He said they were partners for more than 20 years. He scorned suggestions that Miss Gilford was a

From the moment he heard about Miss Gilford's murder, her brother Frank, 59, has insisted he should have the final say on how her killers should be punished. For months he has been implacable in his demand that he would never show elemency, despite appeals from the Saudis and a letter from the two-British nurses. The taxi driver from Jamestown, South Australia, said: "Only death will avenge Yvonne."

Last night Mr Gilford was silent. He is

subject to a temporary injunction that prevents him commenting publicly on

known to operate their own moneylending scheme and had warned Miss Gilford not to jeopardise their lucrative sideline. They are said to have forced nurses from the Far East into prostitution to pay

back their debts: Five security guards were arrested days before the two

All were sacked and one is thought to be related to a member of the team who obtained the confessions from

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Labour hopes Glasgow expulsions will put an end to Scottish sleaze

the pair while they visited the

Al Khobar shopping complex and used Miss Gilford's cash

card. The card was used for a

third successive day at the

Saudi National Bank and

there were reports that at least

one transaction was caught on

The womens' lawyers insist

there never was a video

because Saudi banks are not

equipped with such technol-

ogy, due to the sensitivity of photographing women. Parry is alleged at this time to have

security videos.

By Shirley English and Philip Webster members but are banned from

holding office. The four coun-

cillors facing expulsion are believed to be Deirdre

Gaughan, sub-convener of the

licensing board, Elaine Smith,

a sub-convener with special

THE entire leadership of Glasgow City Council faces suspension and four senior councillors are likely to be expelled when Labour pubishes the findings of its "votes for trips" inquiry today.

The party's National Executive Committee is expected to take tough action to show Tony Blair's determination to wipe out what is viewed as "old" Labour sleaze in the west of Scotland, party sources say.

Five senior council figures face suspension. They are understood to be Pat Lally, the Lord Provost, Alex Mosson, Deputy Lord Provost, depute leader Gordon Macdiarmid, Jimmy Mutter, the parks and recreation convener, and Rob-ert Gould, council leader, who provoked the original investigation by claiming in Febru-ary that some of his party

colleagues traded political support for trips.

The inquiry team began by looking at allegations of "a culture of patronage" which had grown out of tensions over the merger last year of Strath-clyde region and Glasgow city. Councillors were said to have exchanged favours for votes, indulged in verbal harassment and intimidation at meetings, and enjoyed chauffeur-driven cars and foreign travel on generous expenses.

Suspension means that the

councillors will remain party

responsibilities for youth on the policy and resources committee, Heather Ritchie and Jim Sharkey. Three other un-named councillors are still being questioned and further details on the action to be taken against them will be disclosed today. Everyone on the list, prepared by a team of five

investigators from London and Scotland, headed by Irene Murfin, the party's national constitutional officer, will be de-selected and therefore unable to stand in the next council elections. The 12-page report is also

expected to recommend that a new panel be established to vet all expense trips by councillors outside the city boundary. even to Edinburgh or Paisley, and that the Labour Party headquarters in Scotland should introduce a list of candidates for the council elections in two years time. Usually candidates are selected by the party in the local council ward. A review of the Lord Provost's duties and responsibilities aimed at making him more accountable, and a stricter interpretation of

the rules governing declarations of interest are also likely to be recommended.

transfered 2000 Saudi Riyals

(£354) to her account in Alton,

Hanpshire. She insists this

was money from her savings.

McLauchlan alleges the police

planted the card in her

handbag. The defence argue other key

questions remain unanswered

such as why Miss Gilford's

bedroom window was open

when the air conditioning was

on and why security guards

never heard cries for help or

Compound guards were

the sound of a fight.

The report concludes: "Of particular note is the general acceptance of poor standards of behaviour and of the failure of the group leadership to set an example of consistently high standards, of personal and corporate responsibility and discipline.

The allegations range from mis-use of position, bending party rules, and intimidation of council employees. It is believed that Mr Gould might be disciplined for bringing the party into disrepute by making the allegations public.

This is the toughest action we have ever taken against a local authority in Scotland," a party source said yesterday. The Labour Party is entitled to expect total commitment to its rules, constitution, aims and principles in all circumstances. The evidence received points to a number of councillors departing from acceptable and requisite standards."

Neither Mr Lally, Mr Gould or Mr Mosson was prepared to comment yesterday. Mr Lally's post as Lord Provost is non-political and therefore Labour does not have the power to take it away. One source said: "New standing orders would have to be introduced by the council for that to happen."

Unionists

the nurses.

Continued from page 1 participation. "We are not going to shirk our responsibil-ities. We are not going to leave these terrorists in the box seat with Unionism marginalised." he said.

The two governments are also hoping for the passage today of a procedural motion which would at long last allow full-scale negotiations to begin, but that depends on the UUP's co-operation.

Mr Maginnis's indicament

consisted not only of republican statements linking Sinn Fein's negotiators to the IRA. but of statements to the same effect by the two governments. He claimed the IRA's disavowal of the Mitchell principles showed it was still pursuing its "Armalite and ballot box" strategy, and said the Labour government was now on trial for having "elevated an evil mafia to a status that would shame any other country in Western Europe".

Seeking to pre-empt the UUP's attack the Sinn Fein delegation had arrived in the morning with half a dozen Catholics whose relatives had been killed by loyalist paramilitaries. They accused Mr Trimble of hypocrisy for working with the political representatives of those loyalist paramilitaries, but Mr Trimble insisted there was "no equivalence" because the loyalists had expressed their re-morse in 1994, observed a ceasefire since, and "paid their debt to society".

Challenged to express remorse for republican killings. Mr Adams replied: "Of course I am sorry. Of course I am remorseful. Of course we are seeking to put the failures of the past behind us."

Couple win justice in the long run

By Frances GIBB LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

A COUPLE who turned to Europe to complain that the English courts took too long to settle their dispute won a judgment in their favour yesterday - but found that justice Strasbourg-style grinds

even more slowly than in England. The European Court of Human Rights ruled that Britain was in breach of the couple's human rights for taking too long to settle their dispute on legal costs. But, at four years and six months, the European court took four months longer to resolve Geoffrey and Margaret Robins's case than did the English

Britain, the judges said, had violated the European Convention on Human Rights which states that all stages of legal proceedings for the determination of civil rights and obligations must be resolved in a "reasonable" time.

Mr and Mrs Robins, who live in

London and Crediton. Devon, lost their legal dispute with neighbours over sewerage in a judgment on May 1, 1991, but then faced a battle over a claim against them for costs. The whole process ended in dismissal of their appeal against costs on July 19, 1995, when they

come out of the legal aid fund.

Yesterday's judgment said social sec-urity officals had wasted ten months by wrongly believing that the couple had separated, and the British authorities

had done nothing for a further 16 months, causing an unreasonable delay. Yesterday Mrs Robins, a teacher in London, said she did not blame the Strasbourg system for its delays. "Part of the reason is that I did this case all on my own until the very end, when the court rules require you to have a lawyer."

A spokesman for the European court said reforms were on the way.

atelios 1:50

Pair sout from their of life in

the board

Heat and filth take their toll on health

AN IMMEDIATE worry for the two families is whether the women can survive the stilling heat and insanitary prison conditions during the months of legal wrangling they must now endure. Both are suffering from

dysentery and have pleaded with British diplomats to get

THE PRISON

them moved from their overcrowded cells in the Damman Central Prison. The heat, poor food and overflowing lavatories in the women's wing have taken their toll on their failing

Deborah Parry has been given psychiatric help for depression after inmates said that she would wake in the night screaming.
Their families, who have

recently visited them, de-scribed how the women had to wash by pouring a basin of water on themselves over open sewers. The lavatories were choked with soiled nappies, as many of the inmates had their infants with them. The only Westerners in the

prison have to share their cramped and cockroach-infested cell with up to ten others. Jonathan Ashbee, Parry's

brother-in-law, said: The stench is unbearable. I don't think they can stand much more. Their resistance has been weakened already and I'm afraid they will get something very serious."

Relatives claim Saudis lied about a fair trial

THE families of the two British nurses were united last night in their condemnation of the Saudi authorities, which they accuse of breaking a promise that the women would receive a fair trial.

Stan McLauchlan, Lucille's father, showed his indignation when he appeared hand in hand with his wife Ann at the front door of their home in Dundee. He said that Saudi diplomats in Britain had given them repeated assurances that women's confessions, which the nurses say were coerced from them, would be ignored by the courts.

Instead, he said, the confessions were all the three Islamic judges had studied before reaching their verdicts. At times, he appeared close to losing his temper as he faced the cameras and condemned the sentence of 500 lashes for

his 31-year-old daughter.
"This is Saudi justice for you," he said. "Lucille will hear about this listening to the radio in her prison cell. This says everything about the Saudi system.

Neither of the families appeared to know anything about a reported "deal" with Frank Gilford, the brother of the murder victim, to waive his demands for the maximum punishment for both

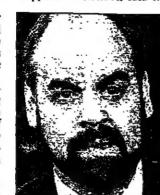
Mr McLauchlan called on the Government to honour a pre-election pledge to put hu-man rights at the top of its THE FAMILIES

political agenda and urgently intervene in the case. His wife kept her head bowed as Mr McLauchlan said: "We find this decision absolutely unbelievable. We cannot understand it for the simple reason that not one shred of evidence has been presented against either of the nurses in court.

"All the assurances that we received from the Saudi ambassador earlier this year, that the nurses would receive a fair trial, that the prosecution would have to prove its case against them and that the confessions, because they were obtained through sexual and physical abuse, would be set aside. They have come to a verdict and it can only have been reached on the strength

Mr McLauchlan, a former union convenor at the Caledon shipyard in Oundee, said he

of these flawed confessions."



Jonathan Ashby: fears for his sister-in-law

had received news of his daughter's conviction by tele-

phone yesterday. Deborah Parry's family were last night urgently trying to contact her lawyers and British diplomats in the kingdom after reports that she faced the death penalty. Her brother-in-law. Jonathan Ashbee, left his office as soon as he heard that Deborah was to be beheaded and spent the

He appeared relieved by assurances from the Foreign Office that his sister-in-law had yet to be officially sentenced but was clearly concerned that, as the judges were relying on their forced confessions", that the court might yet demand the death penalty.

afternoon making frantic tele-

He also knew nothing about the reported deal with Mr Gilford to waive the death enalty. He said that he and his wife Sandra. Deborah's younger sister, were "amazed and absolutely stunned" that Miss McLauchlan had been sentenced to eight years and 500 lashes after all the assurances from the Saudi authorities that they would get a fair trial. He said that evidence gathered by the family which he was not yet prepared to release would prove them innocent. He was also anxious that the women's lawyers should see them today to assure them that their legal fight was not yet over.

London that the victim's brother, Frank Gilford, had waived the right to demand the death penalty for her killers was, he thought, unlikely.
"I refer you to the things he

said before when he said there would be a fair trial and the verdict would be based on. evidence in court and the confessions would not be replied upon. Perhaps that sheds the best light on what he Mr Ashbee said he was

concerned how these reports would affect his children. "We have four small children and they are very frightened." ☐ The damage done by 20 lashes of the cane when administered in the way or-dained in Arab countries, with the flogger's arm held tightly against his chest so as to keep the Koran tucked in his armpits, would be unlikely to cause lasting physical disability (Dr Thomas Stuttaford

The victim would suffer severe bruising, and the soft skin of a woman might even bleed, but she would not be in danger of the hypovolaemic shock which was the cause of death and lasting renal and cerebral damage in those flogged in earlier centuries.

The punishment inflicted on the nurse will be as much psychological as physical. She will know that even after she has lived through any particular session, the whole process will be repeated again many



Ann McLaughlan, fighting back tears, listens outside her home in Dundee yesterday as her husband Stan angrily criticises Saudi diplomats in Britain

Pair sought refuge from their problems of life in Britain

BY their own admission, Deborah Parry and Lucille McLauchlan went to work at the King Fahd Military Hospital in Dhahran to escape from their problems in Britain.

Deborah Parry, 38, had undergone psychiatric treatment after the sudden deaths of both her parents and of her ersonal rela tionships had failed and she told her sister that she felt driven to leave Britain to

retain her sanity.
At the hospital, Parry quickly befriended Lucille Mc-Lauchlan, 31, who was there to escape the disgrace of her blighted career in Scotland. The tax-free salary was higher than they could earn as nurses in Britain. Their companionship was founded on seeking refuge within the strict confines of Saudi society.

The isolation, in a segregated compound, suited Parry as she grieved over a series of family tragedies. In 1979 her 16-year-old brother Keith died in a motorcycle accident just as she was beginning her training. Within weeks, her mother drowned on a boating

THE sentencing of the two nurses in Saudi Arabia is the latest in a series of incidents over the past 20 years which have had the potential for

damaging the close ties be-tween the British and Saudi

love affair, was the first and

threatened diplomatic rela-tions. In April 1980 an ATV

Princess Misha'al, who was

serious breach.

most controversial event that

documentary called Death of a Princess — the story of

executed by gunfire while her

lover was beheaded, caused a

British companies lost ex-

port orders because of the

Saudi Royal Family's outrage

and the implied criticism of

Islamic justice. James Craig.

the British Ambassador, was

withdrawn at the request of

Arabian Governments. The public execution in 1978 of a Saudi princess and her or a Saudi princess and ner commoner husband, who had breached Islamic law by mar-rying in secret after an illicit

3

THE WOMEN

trip during a holiday that Parry had persuaded her to take to help her recover from Keith's death. Determined to oursue her

career, Parry worked in Oxford and then Worcester. In 1987 her father died from a heart attack, and her brotherin-law died from a brain haemorrhage. After turning to bereave-

ment counsellors, Deborah Parry decided to leave Britain, and in 1993 started work at the King Fahd Hospital where she was so highly regarded that she was entrusted to the longterm nursing care of a member of the Saudi royal family.

Two years later, she returned to Hampshire, and then helped establish a pioneering unit for post-operative care as a staff nurse at the Kingston Hospital in Surrey where colleagues found her

"dedicated, and trustworthy". Allegations that emerged during the trial that Parry had lesbian inclinations have been vehemently denied. Her sister

Defence contracts worth

billions could be at risk

TRADE

the Saudi Government. It took all the diplomatic skills

of Lord Carrington, then For-

eign Secretary, to prevent the formal severing of relations. The film highlighted the sensitivities behind a bur-

geoning trade partnership.

Huge exports, not least in the defence field with the £20 bil-

lion al-Yamamah contract,

The same year as the documentary, a British sur-geon and his wife, Richard

and Penelope Arnot were sentenced to a public flogging

for alcohol offences at a party,

during which Helen Smith, a

British nurse, and her Dutch

boyfriend fell over a balcony

to their deaths. Diplomatic

intervention led to their re-

lease and the prevention of

The Iraqi occupation of

Kuwait and the agreement be about 53 billion.

are at stake.

their flogging.

Lucille McLauchlan with a Saudi hospital patient

said that she had ended a 12month relationship with a businessman before returning to the Middle East, and that that had followed a 12-year friendship with another man.

Parry blamed the end of her relationship on her continuing trauma over her family: In September 1996 she returned to the King rand com

McLauchlan's family similarly dismissed the suggestion that she had lesbian inclinations that might be linked to the death of Yvonne Gilford, pointing out that Lucille had been engaged for five years and hoped to save some of her Saudi salary for her wedding. McLauchlan. born in

Dundee, had a single-minded ambition become a nurse. After leaving school at 17 she began work as an auxiliary nurse at Dundee's Victoria Hospital for the terminally ill. A year later she became a state-enrolled nurse.

A colleague at Dundee's King's Cross Hospital recalls Miss McLauchlan as an ebullient, popular and even-tempered colleague who volunteered to work on the Aids ward. She began a petition to keep the ward open. McLauchlan was forced to

leave King's Cross after being accused of stealing a credit card from a terminally ill patient and swindling him out of £1,740. She denied the charge but was due to appear in a Dundee court weeks after her arrest in Saudi Arabia.

McLauchlan had told her fiance and her parents that Dhahran offered a lucrative escape. Her mother said: "I don't recognise the person the Saudis are describing. Lucille

between King Fahd and the Americans for a United States-led coalition force based in Saudi Arabia.

further cemented the close ties between London and

Jeddah. The most recent straining of relations with the Saudis concerned the activi-ties of Muhammad al-

Masari, the Saudi dissident in

exile. A number of defence

contracts were put at risk until the Government decided to

expel him to Dominica, al-

though his departure was

Last year British exports to

Saudi Arabia were worth nearly \$2.5 billion including

the al-Yamamah deal which

on average is valued at about

£2 billion a year. Imports

from Saudi Arabia for 1996

totalled £752 million. Exports

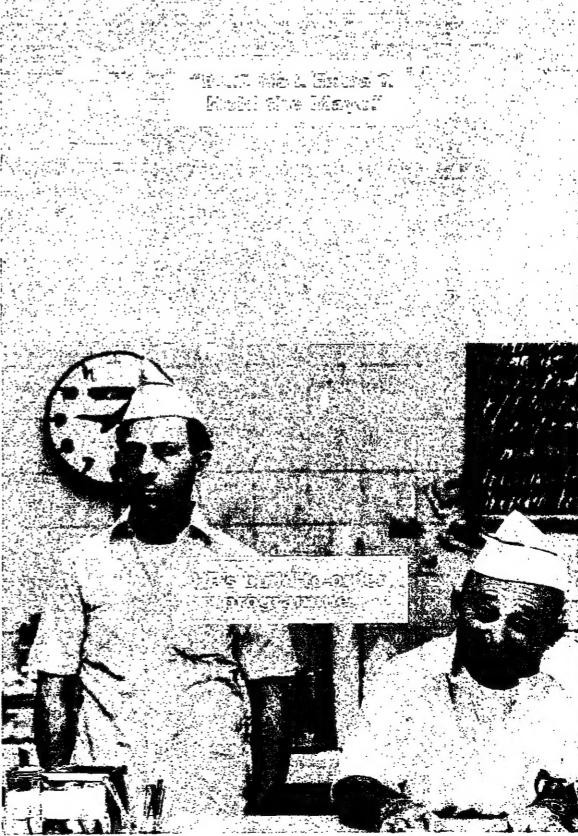
to Saudi Arabia since January

have shown a 50 per cent

increase up to June. The total

figure for 1997 is expected to

suspended for four years.





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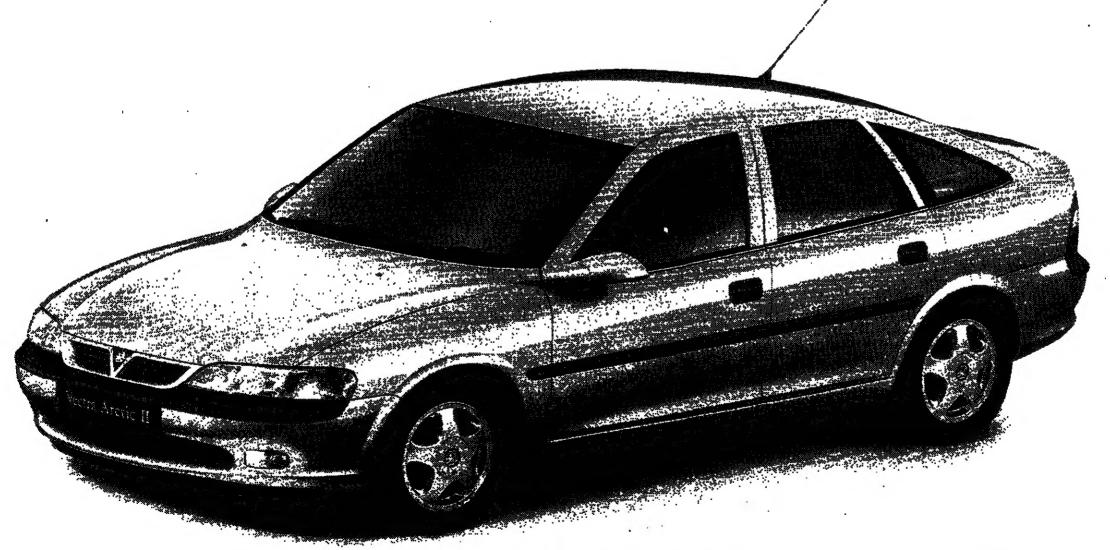
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Stowaway survives leap into treacherous seas

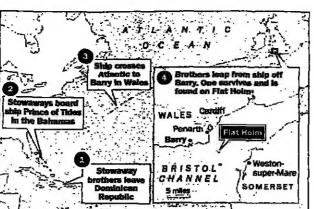
By Simon de Bruxelles

A STOWAWAY who leapt overboard after being caught on a banana boat from the Bahamas was found hiding yesterday on a tiny island in the Bristol Channel. His brother is feared to have drowned.

Coastguards said that the survivor was lucky to be alive after swimming for half the night in fierce currents to reach Flat Holm, a rocky outcrop three miles off the South Wales coast. He was sponed by a warden of the nature reserve after he had crawled ashore exhausted ear-

ly yesterday.
Police were making further searches of the island in case his brother, who jumped with him, had made it ashore. Coastguards who spent the night searching were con-vinced at first that both had drowned in the Bristol Channel, which has one of the fastest tides in the world.

The stowaway was naked when he struggled on to the island, which is about a mile round and is home to five wardens and thousands of sea



birds. Kevin Hogan, project organiser of the Flat Holm nature reserve, said: "It was an amazing escape by any standards. He told us he spent at least four hours in the water and he is very lucky to be alive. The ship would have been at least a mile away from us and the currents are very strong

The brothers, in their twenties and from the Dominican Republic, had stowed away on the 18,000-tonne Prince of Tides sailing from the BahaThey were discovered during the six-day voyage by ship's officers, who locked them in a

On Monday evening the master of the cargo ship, which had moored a mile and a half off Barry, radioed to shore asking immigration officers to collect the stowaways. The officers arrived to find the brothers had forced a porthole

and leapt into the sea. They were assumed to have swum towards the lighthouse on Flat Holm. Coastguards who searched the shoreline at

dawn yesterday found no trace of the pair. At llam the warden, Elizabeth Robinson, spotted the survivor hiding in a former Victorian isolation hospital for cholera cases.

Mr Hogan said: "He had found an old boiler suit to dress himself in, but was clearly in a very poor state. He had injured a knee and was very weak. We brought him into the farmhouse to give him some tomato soup and some bread. He was very grateful and glad for our help. The man, who would not

give his name, spoke a little English but used his native Spanish to thank the five workers. Mr Hogan said: "He said he hadn't seen his brother since they went into the water and that he had been swimming for about four hours. He seemed like a nice young chap and was in good spirits after having something to eat and drink."

The stowaway was taken off by helicopter for interview by police and immigration officers at Barry police station. A police spokesman said: "He has been examined by a doctor and is in good health."



The son of the 1960s singer Donovan married a Scottish model on the banks of Loch Lomond yesterday. The wedding of Donovan Leitch, clad in a red kilt which he said was the family tartan, and Kirsty Hume took place at St Mackessog's Church, Luss

Children sue over mother's Pill death

BY IAN MURRAY MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

TWO children are seeking £50,000 damages from a drugs company over the death of their mother after she had taken the Pill.

Through their father, Brian Merrick, the children, Aaran, 9, and Daniel, 7, are suing Schering Health Care under the Fatal Accidents Act, 1976. The company makes Femo-dene, one of the brands of contraceptive that were said by the Department of Health two years ago to carry in-creased risks of thrombosis and blood clots.

The family, from Chester, claims that Monica Williams died in 1993, aged 24, as a result of the company's negli-gence and that it did not give adequate advice and warning about the contraceptive.

A spokesman for Schering said: "The company will defend itself and its oral contraceptive products, which are well tolerated and used effectively by millions of women. both in the United Kingdom and around the world, against any litigation that may occur."

Rat in the aisle forces BA to cancel flight out of Africa

FROM INIGO GILMORE IN JOHANNESBURG

MORE than 200 British Airways passengers were stranded in Johannesburg yesterday when their overnight flight to London was cancelled after a stewardess spotted what she thought was a rat running down the aisle.

The rat — or possibly mouse - was seen while the aircraft was being cleaned after it had arrived in Johannesburg from Gaborone, the capital of neighbouring Botswana. British Airways said yesterday that the delay was inevitable after BA staff failed to locate

According to one of the passengers on flight BA 054, they were initially told that the plane had been late leaving Gaborone and then informed in two subsequent announcements that there were problems with the "catering ar-rangements" before the flight was finally cancelled about 15 minutes after midnight yesterday morning, more than two hours after the scheduled departure time. Until yesterday afternoon there was no official mention of the rodent.

Patrick Kirwan. 27. a British businessman, said: "At around midnight, I went to the BA business class lounge to find out what was going on and I bumped into the flight captain. He told me there was a rat on board, and certain members of the crew had refused to fly. He said they were trying to locate the rat but so far they had had no success.

"I was horrified," Mr Kir-wan continued. "I asked whether the flight would still take off and he replied that he. thought it doubtful. About 15 minutes later the flight was cancelled but no mention was made of the rat. It's ridiculous. I did not expect this from the world's favourite airline. People were very angry."

24 Mg (199

BA defended its decision to cancel the flight on the

grounds that the aircraft had to be fumigated and technical checks carried out in case the rodent had chewed through any wiring. "As always our passengers are the first priority," a BA statement said.

The BA statement said: "Wherever possible, passengers with onward connections were rebooked on other flights. Other passengers were

accommodated at local hotels." Rats. mice and other sharptoothed rodents greatly concern airline health and safety officials. They can gnaw through an electrical cable or control wire in seconds and are capable of spreading disease from one country to ariother. However, a combination of rapid turnaround times at airports, few obvious ways for rodents to smuggle themselves on board and the introduction of metal, ratproof containers in which to store food and perishables

appears to be deterring them. Officials from Hillingdon Borough Council. whose Environmental Health Department is responsible for ensuring that Heathrow is kept free of diseases and animal infestations, are called out five or six times a year to deal with rats or mice on board and aircraft — usually spotted in a cargo hold by loaders. "When that happens, the aircraft must be furnigated with methyl bromide, an organic compound which can also be used as a fire extinguisher," said a Hillingdon spokesman.

Most passengers on the BA filght were taken to Johannesburg airport's Holiday lnn and were due to fly to London last night, 24 hours late. They were allowed to make one local call and one brief international call free of charge, but permitted no hard liquor. "After that, we could have done with a stiff drink." one passenger remarked.





Dracula gets stake in the Irish mail

By AUDREY MAGEE IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

STAMPS depicting Dracula in ghoulish poses go on sale in Ireland next week to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the birth in Ireland of Bram Stoker, who created the vampire count.

The four stamps form part of an international "horror" collection and depict him rising from his coffin; preparing to bite the neck of his unsuspecting victim. Lucy Westenra; surrounded by bats in his Transylvanian castle: and hiding in the woods where a bright-eyed wolf lurks in

the background. Dracula is the most famous book written by Stoker who, though he spent most of his life in England, was born in Clontarf, a coastal town north of Dublin city centre, where seminars are



Dracula stamp

held every summer to celebrate his work.

The Royal Mail. Canada Post and the United States Post will also next week publish stamps of ghosts and ghouls. The Royal Mail collection includes depictions of Frankenstein's monster. Jekvll and Hyde. the hound of the Baskervilles and Dracula.

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Issued by the National Employers' Liaison Committee on behalf of the Tentional Army and the Volunteer Reserves of the Royal Navy, the Royal Mannes and the Royal Air Force.

Code of practice to regulate sale of DIY gene tests

COMPANIES which offer genetic tests directly to the public could be blacklisted if they fail

to follow proper procedures. The warning came yester-day from a government com-mittee which has written a code of practice for genetic tests sold "over the counter" or by mail order. So far no abuses had been detected and only two companies were known to offer such services, said Marcus Pembrey of the Institute of Child Health in London, chairman of the subgroup which drew up the code.

Professor Pembrey said that some tests would be unlikely to gain the committee's approval. "If somebody told us they were planning to offer tests for the breast cancer susceptibility gene BRCA1, we would have to think very hard, he said. The danger is that it would be used by women who were secretly worried about breast cancer but hadn't told anybody and

Firms could face blacklisting if

rules over advice to patients, writes

Nigel Hawkes answer they didn't want." Such information, in the absence of medical advice and counselling, could be very disturbing, he said. However.

are limited to advising couples about their risk of having children with cystic fibrosis. The code outlined by the sub-group of the Advisory Committee on Genetic Testing is voluntary. The only sanction for those ignoring it is

ing for the Government and

offering independent forensic

DNA expertise for defence

tic fibrosis kits a year ago.

£10,000 annual profits go to research. It screens 200 pa-

tients a year, charging £88 for Down's syndrome biochemi-

cal tests, £98 for genetic cystic

fibrosis screening and £128 for

a combined test. The com-

pany aims to provide services

not available elsewhere.

lar disease

Screen yourself by mail order

By STEPHEN FARRELL

PRIVATE genetic testing is provided by two private companies in Britain, University Diagnostics and the Leeds Ante-Natal Screening Service.

Both offer mail-order screening kits for cystic fibrosis, the hereditary lung and ly kills its victims within 25 years. Customers are attracted by advertisements and brochures in doctors' surgeries.

For between £65 and £98 they are supplied with a mouthwash kit to be posted back for analysis. The results determine with 85 per cent accuracy whether they are among two million people in Britain who carry the gene responsible for the disease.

University Diagnostics was founded nine years ago at University College London. It has a El million turnover, performing immigration test-

Professor Pembrey believes that is enough. "It would be even more difficult to devise an effective statutory system. they fail to follow

day welcomed by Tessa Jowell, Minister for Public Health, lays down standards for confidentiality and good laboratory practice and says that all those buying tests should be entitled to consultations before and after the test to ensure that they understand it and its implications. Tests should not be sold to people under 16. Only tests that are backed with sound clinical the tests offered so far pose data will be approved and a less of a dilemma because they copy of the results should normally be sent to the buyer's

The code, which was yester-

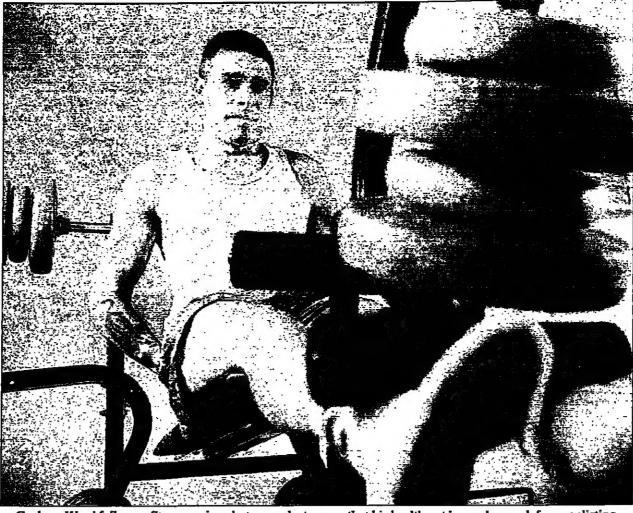
obligatory. Professor Pembrey said that he expected the private services to be centred around tests for inherited recessive disorders, such as cystic fibrosis. Much more complex ethi-cal issues are raised by tests that indicate an increased risk of a life-threatening disease such as cancer, diabetes or heart disease. Such tests exist, but need careful explanation the patient is not to be alarmed or falsely reassured. A network of regional genetic centres provides testing paid for by the National Health Service, and the bulk of people requesting tests will take this

GP, although this is not

In America, private genetic testing is much further adlawyers. It has tested 1,000 people since launching its cysvanced but doctors are begin-Dr Paul Debenham, the ning to voice concern. One managing director, said he study, published in the New England Journal of Medicine in March, showed that a would have no problems with the code of practice and predicted a huge long-term expansion of DNA testing to laboratory in North Carolina failed to offer proper counselcover osteoporosis, adult-onling before testing people for a set diabetes and cardiovascucolon cancer gene, and gave incorrect interpretations of the The Leeds Ante-Natal results in nearly one third of Screening Service is part of Leeds University and all its

Dr Francis Giardello, of Johns Hopkins University, who criticised the tests, said that they showed the potential dangers of allowing tests to become widely available before doctors were properly trained to use them.

Leading article, page 21



Graham Ward follows a fitness regime, but army doctors say that his health not in good enough for re-enlisting

Ex-soldier caught in medical crossfire

BY MICHAEL EVANS DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

A FORMER soldier has been told that he cannot re-enlist in the Army because he is permanently disabled — but is too fit to qualify for a disability pension.

Graham Ward, 25, wants to re-enlist in the 1st Battalion, The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire. But he has been registered by an army orthopaedic consultant as permanently disabled after a knee injury during his earlier army

Yet the Disablement Board of the War Pensions Agency, which had awarded him a pension, has withdrawn it because doctors consider him to be "100 per cent fit". Mr Ward has until December to prove to the Army that its medical essment is wrong, because then he

will be 26, the maximum age for recruits.

Mr Ward, who works for a security firm and runs three miles every morning. has been classed by the army consultant as a PL7 case. "A PL8 case is someone confined to a wheelchair for the rest of his life and I'm supposed to be just one level below that," Mr Ward said.

His case has been taken up by a solicitor, Alison Herbert, who said: *Everyone, except this one army consultant, says he is fully fit, including his own doctor." If she is unable to persuade the

Army to reconsider Mr Ward's case, she

intends to seek a judicial review. Mr Ward, from Harrogate, North Yorkshire, joined the Army in 1991. He sprained his left knee during an outdoor army exercise and had to leave. He rejoined in 1993 but the knee was injured again during a gym game. He was discharged in March 1994 and was granted a disablement pension by the

War Pensions Agency.
The Ministry of Defence said yester day that the Army would examine his case. A spokesman said: "Tests by civilian doctors may not necessarily take into account the extra physical demands

US doctor wants all boys to be circumcised

By LAN MURRAY MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH and American doctors clashed yesterday over claims that universal circumcision of all newborn boys should be brought in as a public health measure.

An American report in a specialist paper published today by the British Medical Journal says that it would prevent disease and save money. Not only would circumcision give protection against HIV, but it would also reduce cancer and limit infections. Uncircumcised boys are ten times more likely to suffer from urinary tract infections and potentially permanent kidney damage, it says. The author, Edgar Schoen

of the Kaiser Foundation Research Institute in Oakland, California, says uncircum-cised heterosexual men are four times as likely to become infected with HIV, while only ten of the 50,000 cases of penile cancer in the US since 1930 have involved circumcised men.

In the same journal, Archives of Disease in Childhood. Angus Nicholl of the Public Health Laboratory Service says there is a small but persistent risk of complication from male circumcision and the public health value of a routine circumcision policy has not been proved. He calculates that circumcision for non-HIV sexually transmitted diseases would not be

cost-effective. Circumcising the 375,000 boys born every year would cost the NHS £9.8 million and it would take at least 15 years for any potential health benefit

Higher education given £165m boost

By JOHN O'LEARY **EDUCATION EDITOR**

STUDENT loan payments are to be staggered to help to provide a £165 mil-lion lifeline for higher education next year, it was announced yesterday. But there is no guarantee that universities will keep the proceeds from tuition fees in future.

Baroness Blackstone, the Higher Education Minister, said new arrange-ments had been agreed before the

completion of the Treasury's overall spending review in recognition of the serious problems facing higher education. Universities would receive an extra £125 million, with £40 million going to boost hardship funds for students and provide incentives for student teachers.

Most of the additional money has been found by ending the annual payment of loans. From next September, new students will receive their loans in termly instalments, pushing a third of the expenditure into the following financial year. The remainder will come from other administrative adjustments, ensuring that none of the department's programmes has to

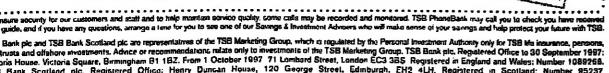
Lady Blackstone said the extra funding would reduce the planned cut for universities to below the I per cent that Sir Ron Dearing said in his July report on higher education could be accommodated. Previous plans required a 2.7 per cent cut next year. The

new arrangements mean that universities will receive most of the first year's income from fees, with the remainder going towards student support. There will be some further savings in 1999, but no decision on the future use of fee income will be made until the Treasurv's review is finished.

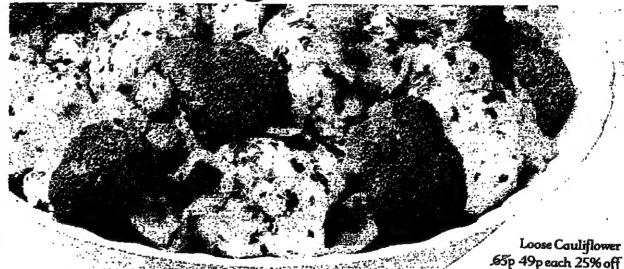
Details of a £10 million scheme to help student teachers with their fees are yet to be finalised. The Health Department is to pay fees for doctors and dentists in their final year.



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Bring a pan of water to the boil and cook 10oz (275g) of broccoli florets and 90z (250g) of cauliflower florets for about 4 minutes. Chop 3 rasbers of bacon and fry until crisp.

Meanwhile, put 1/2 a pack each of fresh flat parsley, fresh mint and fresh basil, a clove of garlic, I tablespoon of Dijon mustard and I tablespoon of capers into a food processor. Blend, adding 3 tablespoons of olive oil and a tablespoon of lemon juice. Season to taste.

Drain the vegetables and put into a serving dish. Pour dressing over and sprinkle the bacon on top. Leave for 10 minutes before serving.

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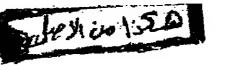
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£45,000 for dyslexic who was failed by experts

One missed test led to bullying and dead-end jobs, reports Adrian Lee

woman who left school with a reading age of seven won damages of more than £45,000 yesterday from the local authority that failed to diagnose. her dyslexia.

The award to Pamela Phelps. 23, marked the first time in which liability has been found in such a case. It is likely to trigger hundreds of other claims from among Britain's estimated 23 million

The British Dyslexia Association said it hoped Miss Phelps's success would lead to a review of dyslexia screening by all education authorities. Miss Phelps, who said she still felt bitter towards the London Borough of Hillingdon, the authority involved, said she would spend the money on her education: she hoped to take GCSEs and become a computer programmer. "I will never lose my dyslexia, but I can improve it, even if it takes a

It was only when her brother saw a television programme about the former racing driver Stirling Moss, who is dyslexic, that her was discovered, shortly before she left Mellow Lane secondary school at the

Miss Phelps, a single parent of Hayes End, West London. was dismissed from her first job because she made so many

She now has a reading age

Mr Justice Garland, giving his judgment at the High Court, said that Diane Melling, an educational psy-chologist employed by Hil-lingdon, mistakenly blamed emotional problems, "This was more than an error of judgment: it was a failure to exercise the degree of care and skill to be expected of an ordinarily competent member of her profession."

The court had been told that, when she was aged almost 12. Miss Phelps could national average band. At her next school, Mellow Lane, her head of year said she "lacked

motivation and did not try". Cherie Booth, QC, told the court that, had her client been offered special tuition, she would have gone on to earn £20,000 a year. Instead, she was lumped in with children of low intelligence. Miss Phelps told the court she was bullied as a result of her dyslexia

Speaking afterwards, her mother, Ann. recalled how she made a succession of visits to her daughter's schools, seek-

6 I knew there was something wrong but no one would listen. They kept trying to say it was problems at home. When dyslexia was diagnosed, it was such a relief 9

still not write her address. One more test would have estabjudge said Miss Melling could and should have looked further, but did not".

The judgment includes the names of seven special needs teachers or educational psychologists who assessed Miss Phelps. The court was told that, at the age of seven, she was already reversing the letters d and b, a classic sign of dyslexia. At Hayes Park Infants School she was referred to a psychologist who said that her IQ of 93 was within the

ing help. "I knew there was something wrong, but no one would listen. They kept trying to say it was problems at home. When dyslexia was

diagnosed, it was such a

Jackie Leluvien, president of the Hillingdon Dyslexic Association, and now tutor to Miss Phelps, said she hoped the judgment would lead to more investment by education authorities. There are still many cases slipping through the net hecause teachers do not have the expertise to spot dyslexia. It is not obvious. There is a

tendency to blame it on lack of attention, slow learning, laziness: you name it.

She said that Miss Phelps had made great strides but still suffered from a lack of self-esteem. Miss Phelps's solicitor. Jack Rabinowicz, who is representing 50 other dys-lexics, said: "Many children have been badly let down and this case will mean they can now go ahead to claim

A spokeswoman for the British Dyslexia Association called for teachers to receive better training in spotting the warning signs. "Children will respond well if they are diagnosed early enough," she said. "With proper screening, dys-lexia can be picked up at the

A spokesman for the London Borough of Hillingdon said the authority was disappointed by the judgement and was considering an appeal. He said Miss Melling now Mrs Loffler - whu bore much of the judge's criticism, was still employed there as an educational psychologist. She refused to

The award consisted of £6,550 for past and future tuition fees, £25,000 for future loss of earnings and £12,500 for general damages. The judge also awarded interest. taking the total to £45,650. He agreed that £37,000 should be withheld, pending a possible appeal by the authority.



Pamela Phelps after winning her court case. She will spend the money on education

Recovery rates are good if problem is spotted early The chances of children receiving help are often hit and miss, reports **Ian Murray**

THERE are fewer than 2.000 teachers specially trained in identifying and helping dyslexic children in Britain's 25,000 schools. Local education authorities have no centralised policy and provision is extremely patchy.

According to the Dyslexia Institute, which has trained 200 teachers in each of the past five years, every school needs a dyslexia teacher, especially at primary level, because the sooner the condition is identified the better the chance of ensuring a proper education.

Although dyslexia was first identified 100 years ago, it is only in the past 25 years that it has been

condition. Prior to that, according to Martin Turner, head of psychia-

Surveys show that between 2 and per cent of all children are seriously dyslexic, which means that up to 24,000 of the 600,000 children in each school year suffer from it. "There are probably a large

care for dyslexies and now they can

for children to repeat

able to recognise eight or so letters of the alphabet, while dyslexic ones would struggle to know a couple. In school the gap between normal children and dyslexic children begins to widen rapidly.

Their intelligence is quite normal, but they have short-term memory difficulties; they forget instructions and they can show high levels of frustration because they can see their peers are able to cope in a way that they can't." Ms

the dyslexia unit at the University of Wales in Bangor. It is based on observations of the tasks dyslexic children find difficult. These include remembering sequences of numbers and repeating them forwards and backwards, reciting the months of the year both ways and

reciting mathematical tables. Their ability to recognise right and left is tested by tasks such as touching an ear with the opposite hand. They are given words such as catastrophic, statistical and anemone to repeat. Ann Cooke, who runs

the mechanics of writing words with the letters the right way round. They confuse a number like 15 and write 51 instead.

Dyslexic children have to be given special teaching so that they can link sounds to letters. This involves repeating similar phonetic sounds with words until the child recognises them together.

Although dyslexics are never cured, they can be trained to read fluently even if they cannot always spell well. If training starts at 7 there is a 90 per cent chance of a child being able to cope in later years. If the condition is not spotted until the mid-teens, the chances of

NEWS IN BRIEF

Asprilla's friend is convicted

A drug addict who bought cocaine with the help of £1,000 given to him by his friend Faustino Asprilla, the New-castle United footballer, was convicted of possessing the drug. Leonel Sarmiento-Mottoa, 31, a cleaner from North London, was cleared of intent to supply. Before adjourning the case for preentence reports, Judge Peter Fingret told Sarmiento-Mottoa that the likely outcome would be a prison sentence.

Driver hid crime

A drink-driver whose two friends were killed in a crash placed the car keys on one of their bodies to hide his guilt. Ateeq Rafiq, 23, was told at Nottingham Crown Court that he faced a lengthy jail sentence by careless driving.

Stamp delayed

The Queen has postponed the issue of stamps celebrating her golden wedding anniversary as a mark of respect to Diana, Princess of Wales, The four stamps, due to go on sale on October 7, will now be available from November 13, a week before the anniversary.

New film head

The producer Steve Norris, whose movies include Memphis Belle. is to succeed Sir Sydney Samuelson as head of the British Film Commission in November. The commission eases the way for filmmakers wanting to shoot movies in Britain.

Fragrant tickets

Lever Brothers are promoting their new brand of Radion by impregnating London bus tickets with the smell of the washing powder. The tickets give off the scent when rubbed, and carry the slogan: Your washing could smell as fresh as this ticket."

Pier for sale

Totland Bay Pier on the Isle of Wight, offering tranquillity and a view of The Needles, is to be sold next month. The 450ft-long pier, built in 1880, has a guide price of £10.000 but its new owner will have to spend thousands more repair-

risk to be identified from birth. Margaret Snowring, a psychiatrist at the University of York, said that

try at the institute, it was often regarded as a middle-class disease, used as an excuse by parents whose children were slow at learning.

number who have slipped through the net," Mr Turner said, "Many local authorities have been saving

find themselves having to pay out millions in compensation for failing to do so." The condition runs in families,

making it possible for children at the first signs were an inability to pronounce simple words easily and a failure to understand the way rhymes worked. This made it nursery rhymes.

The test mentioned in the High

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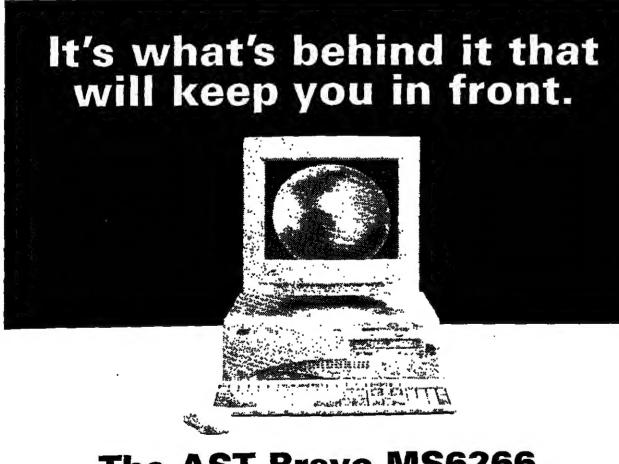
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Libraries are urged to charge for book loans

LIBRARIES in England and Wales must consider charges to pay for the services that will meet the needs of the next century, the Audit Commission says. The number of books borrowed has failen by 19 per cent in the past ten years, and unless libraries offer the latest technology they will face further decline.

Less money is being spent on books - £94 million last year, down 10 per cent in a decade — with the highest cuts in London (down 30 per cent) and the North East (down 25 per cent). Many libraries have also cut their opening hours, with the figure down 6 per cent nationally. London and the North East again had the

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The commission says today

role in linking the public to the information superhighway. In a report about the future of the library service. Due for Renewal, libraries are told they must invest in new equipment to catch up with the technological revolution.

It suggests that one way of helping to pay for the new facilities is through charging. Some charge is already made by libraries for many ICT-based services, but the law forbids them from charging for the loan of books. Last year libraries raised E12 million in hire charges for videotapes and music CDs.
The Audit Commission

DUE FOR RENEWAL: THE CASH CRISIS FACING LIBRARIES

clearly hopes that the suggesthat management of the countion of possible charging will try's 4,000 libraries must become more dynamic and that they should play an important

encourage a debate on the issue. But the status quo for the library service is not an option: "There are signs it is in gradual decline and may not be strongly placed to take up the challenges now facing it." Savings of about £14 million were identified in improved stock control of books, with

regular updating. The report also suggests that more computers would allow readers to take out their own books, and to reserve titles electronically. cutting staff costs and Unless action is taken, the report says: "Library authori-

ties that do not rise to these challenges run the risk of becoming increasingly inefficient, ineffective and irrelevant to the needs of those whom they serve."

Denmark and The Netherlands borrow more library books per head. The Audit funding on libraries is being used for staff costs and not for spending on new books. Staff costs have increased by

10 per cent in the past ten years and have taken up the 10 per cent of extra funding. The library service costs £670 million a year. The Audit Commission says that the average salary for library staff has risen from £12,900 to £15,800

is caught between a budget ceiling and rising staff costs. the result is a squeeze on the books and materials budget."

But libraries attract people of all ages and social classes, and the report says they are well regarded and well liked. There were about 335 million visits to libraries last year. compared with 140 million going to local swimming pools and sports centres. The number of visits to local museums and galleries was 10 million. Libraries cost an average

£13 per head of the population, with 12 million people visiting their branch every formight. Some 24 million adults are members of a library and 460 million books were issued, nine for every person in the

Only readers in Finland, Commission also claims that

"What is worrying for the library service is that, when it

Michelin Pilots

continue their

Beverley Williams, a librarian at Manchester Central Library. Technology will mean readers need not visit

Read-only will be just a memory

THE imposing classical en-trance to the Manchester Central Library speaks volumes for the sense of history it was opened in 1934 to disseminate. Once through the swing doors, however, the reader is offered a glimpse of a bright digitised future.

It was to the library once called the "British Museum of the North" that researchers for the Audit Commission report came to investigate how public libraries could exploit information technolComputers lead 21st-century plan for new services, says Russell Jenkins

ogy to remain important instiutions into the 21st century. Readers and researchers make 1.5 million visits to the

library each year and the numbers, driven by the need to acquire technical information for professional and education needs, are increasing, allowing it to buck the national trend. While the number of book issues across the country is down 19 per cent over the past ten years, the number has increased 40 per cent at the Central Library over the same period.

Its collection of about two million volumes, predomi-nantly in the social sciences and technical fields, is one of the most important in the country. At the same time Alec Gallimore, the library manager, has ensured an IT strategy that will bring the library to

He believes that libraries are evolving from being central stores of materials - to which every user has to make regular visits and spend many hours in study — to informa tion centres which can distribinformation through networks from "one end of the world to another". Microfilm will give way to digitised information. He said: "One of the things we are doing at the moment is taking IT services to the public. We see this as a means of

getting information right down to local level. We have a network connected to local district libraries so they can access information held here. We have databases and CD-Roms on the network. "Our aim is to take informa-

tion to people wherever they are, without them having to come to the building. The original library will remain, but it will be much more heavily dependent on IT." Wilmslow Public Library,

run by Cheshire County Council, is a popular branch library serving the affluent Cheshire suburb. Over the past decade, it has suffered its share of the national trend away from book borrowing. The modern glass-fronted library, which shares a car park with a Sainsbury store,

has transformed itself into a

supermarket for information

to attract regular library users. It offers a host of services, including entertainment videos, special interest CD-Roms, music cassettes.

A library shop offers educa-tional wall charts, cards and books bearing titles like Tea Shop Walks in Cheshire. Outside the library, visitors are invited to access 24 hour information on bus and rail timetables, city maps and council services on a touchdriven electronic screen. Once inside, the usual borrowing and reference sections for adults and children are bolstered by on-screen databases giving information on local organisation and job

An independent company surveys the shelves by com-puter to ensure that they are replenished with fresh titles and that the stock is circulated through the area. Overdue books cost 10p for every day they are late.

Barbara West, Wilmslow's area manager, said: "One thing that is different now is that we are actually saying what we have to offer rather than, as in the past, assuming people know. The other thing is people are more demanding and much more informa-

customers demand to shop around the clock

By ROBIN YOUNG

DEMAND is increasing for Britain to stay open all hours, according to a report published today.

Eighty per cent of the population think that companies should provide customer care by telephone outside normal working hours, according to research sponsored by BT and

First Direct. More than a third of those questioned for the Future Foundation, a commercial think-tank, said they would like to shop outside normal hours in department stores, while 58 per cent wanted pharmacies to open earlier and close later. Almost half wanted grocery stores to open longer. There was also public demand, the researchers found, for pubs to stay open beyond midnight.

Leon Kreitzman, of the Future Foundation, said yes-

City that

dreams

of never

sleeping

BY PAUL WILKINSON

THE people of Leeds have embarked on a multimillionpound initiative to make it the

24-hour city.

In the past four years, civic leaders have spent £10 million

on turning the Yorkshire city of 700,000 people into a metropolis to rival any Euro-pean capital. Leeds claims

Britain's largest financial ser-

vices sector outside the City of

London, and is fast becoming

one of the country's biggest

cultural centres.

terday: "It is younger people who are most keen to see flexible opening hours. They are the group already enjoying the 24-hour exeperience dropping off dry-cleaning on the way to the pub or cinema. collecting it on the way back and doing a quick run around

the supermarket afterwards." Mr Kreitzman said that there was a trend toward increasing use of the telephone to get information or services. "In this area," he said, "it is the 25-44 year olds, those with children, high-income groups, shiftworkers and those who have pressure on their time who like the convenience of ordering goods and services from home in the evenings or

at weekends." The report says that 33 per cent of customers are willing to pay extra for out-of-hours service. Almost 75 per cent of businesses accept that a 24hour service is inevitable, yet 70 per cent of retailers said they had no plans to alter their hours.

Peter Simpson, commercial director of First Direct, said: "The point about the 24-hour society is the freedom it gives people, allowing them to decide when they want to bank or shop."

The appetite for extended hours is not confined to commerce, the report adds. There is strong demand, backed by 60 per cent of consumers, for doctors and dentists to be more available at night and over weekends, and 20 per cent would like schools to

open beyond standard hours. Dominic Owens, BT's head of business communications, said: "Companies cannot afford to stall their response for



Leeds has a thriving nightlife and relaxed licensing laws

the life of the city by encouraging more and more residents. visitors and business to recognise its potential and make greater use of the centre, particularly in the evenings," said Paul Paley, chairman of the local authority's city centre committee. "A well-used city that is safe, accessible and friendly to people of all ages. all walks of life, day and night is our ultimate ambition."

The city council is seeking to provide the infrastructure and political climate for public and private enterprise to flourish. Car parks on the perimeter of the central area were made safer, with bright lighting, security guards and closed circuit television. Cameras were also set up across the city centre and last week the council introduced foot patrols to provide help and security for the public. Traffic has been barred from many streets to allow pedestrians greater freedom of movement.

The policy of relaxed licensing regulations had led to a remarkable growth of nightlife, which thrives on the 50,000 students who attend courses in Leeds. There are Michelin-starred restaurants and theme pubs, and bars are encouraged to put tables on the streets. A property development programme has tried to increase the number of people living in the city

A Clean Sweep. 1997 BTCC Champions and the second s

winning ways in the **British Touring Car** Championships, taking the 1997 driver, manufacturer and team titles with Alain Menu, Renault **UK and Williams** Renault Dealer Racing. This year's triumph brings the total number of Michelin wins in the BTCC to more than 70 since the world's number one tyre maker entered the fray in 1993. But the ultimate winner is

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Already home to Opera North, the city recently became the Northern Ballet's base, and a college of music is being established. The West Yorkshire Playhouse, under Jude Kelly's directorship, has an international reputation. The Leeds piano competition is one of the world's finest showcases for new talent.

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House party host denies Tory plot to make Patten leader



vative Party broke cover yesterday to deny rumours of a plot to oust William Hague as leader and re-place him with the former Governor

of Hong Kong. Chris Patten. Speculation of a conspiracy has been rife since it emerged that the Machiavellian former Chief Whip. Tristan Garel-Jones, played host at his Spanish home last week to John Major, Mr Patten and William

According to the gossip at West-

among the orange groves of Candeleda, near Madrid, to scheme against Mr Hague. Nervous Tory MPs speculated that Mr Major was being urged to stand down in his ion constituency to make way for Mr Patten, who would make a triumphant return to Westminster

to oppose Mr Hague. It was, after all, Mr Garel-Jones who hosted a meeting of ministers at his London home in 1990 after the first ballot of the Tory leadership campaign, which concluded that Mrs Thatcher was finished. That meeting included Mr Waldegrave and Mr Patten and became known as the Catherine Place conspiracy.

MPs have been smelling a conspiracy over a meeting at arch-conspirator's home, reports Andrew Pierce

Mr Garel-Jones yesterday not only denied the conspiracy but said he was hosting a reunion of old friends who were members of the Blue Chip Dining Club — and that Mr Hague had been invited.

"I do not think a single word was expressed which would have caused William any unease. People always accuse me of being a conspiracist, but I am no longer in a place to

am a footnote in political history," said Mr Garel-Jones. "I invited William about six weeks

ago. It hardly suggests a sinister plot against him when, with the agree-ment of my other guests, he was invited to join us."

The four house guests were mem-bers of the Blue Chip Dining Club. which was drawn from the brightest of the 1979 intake of MPs. "We are all old friends."

The Spanish house party was augmented on Saturday by the arrival of Tom King, the former

could not join us," said Mr Garel-Jones. "He would have enjoyed the conversation and the break from all the sniping at home. We were all

well disposed towards him.
"But even if had joined us the conspiracy theorists would have had a field day. I suspect they would said he had come to ask John Major how to do the job. It is very tiresome. We want William to succeed. Honest."

Letters, page 21

Major foresaw bloody fighting

By NICHOLAS WOOD

JOHN MAJOR foresaw the infighting and personal rançour that wrecked his Government, according to a television programme on his years in power.

Within days of winning the 1992 general election his greatest triumph — the former Prime Minister told Jeffrey Archer that he faced five years of misery at the hands of his enemies within Tory ranks. The now Lord Archer of Westonsuper-Mare said: "He delivered a sentence that I will remember for the rest of my life: 'I think I ought to warm you I am about to have five of the most un-pleasant years of my life

.. There are a lot of people out there who are cross we won and this is an election they did not expect us to win. They are going to take it out on me and take it out on the party. It's going to be a bloody time."

In the same programme, the former Cabinet minister David Mellor admits that he behaved "foolishly" in having an affair with Antonia de Sancha, an

In Major in Power, to be screened next month by BSkyB, Mr Mellor says that even the Archangel Gabriel would have struggled to contain a Tory party riven by naked

Ministers break ranks over pay rise sacrifice

THE Cabinet pay dispute burst into the open yesterday as two senior ministers publicly countered suggestions that they had agreed to give up a E16,500 increase.

As John Prescott anxiously tried to arrange a compromise that would allow the issue to be settled before next week's Labour Party conference, Gordon Brown delivered another

Speaking in Hong Kong, he insisted on discipline in public spending and added that he was demanding that public pay settlements "across the board" must be guided by firmness and fairness. While Treasury sources denied that the message was aimed specifically at Cabinet colleagues, the implication was clear.

The row has become the Government's worst presentational failure since the election. First Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, and then David Blunkett, the Education Secretary, confirmed that ministers had far from given up hope of salvaging some of the £16,500 that they were expected to take in April.

Mr Cook said from New York that there had been "unanimous agreement" in the Cabinet last week that the increase should be "deferred". He said Mr Prescott was looking at how the rise should be "phased and staged in".

Philip Webster

on hopes by Cook

and Blunkett to salvage some of the Cabinet's

£16,500 award made little effort to conceal their displeasure at the way in which they feel they were "bounced" last week into forgoing the pay rise which

they had agreed to delay until

next April, although it was due The irritation was evident in remarks from Mr Blunkett, who appeared to suggest that the row would not have happened had they been allowed to take the rise in May.

He said: "I think what we need to get across to the electorate is, far from actually being avaricious and greedy, we've already taken a pay cut of £16,500 for this year, for which we have received no credit. And now we are being abused for trying to sort out next year, which would never have arisen had we not taken a

Speaking on BBC Radio 4's World at One, Mr Blunkett

were allocated in last year's review body report. Pay increases for next year - as, of course, with teachers and nurses and doctors - would be recommended by the review body, which is currently sitting. I think that is something that we need to sort out quite separately."

Mr Prescott is trying to find a solution that covers the need to show restraint over the E16,500 rise, and the February recommendation from the pay review bodies that will cover next year's rise.

The row over Cabinet pay came after the Prime Minister moved to extricate himself last week from a potential row by making plain that he had no intention of taking his "entitle-ment" — a 40 per cent or £40,000-plus rise next year, which would have taken him to a total of £143,860.

Mr Blair urged Cabinet colleagues to take their full salaries, but by the end of the day it was indicated that a substantial number had decided to ignore that call and instead to follow their leader's example.

Now it is clear that was only a holding position. One minister said last night that he had yet to hear from Mr Prescott. Another said the row was "turning into a nightmare".



Mr Hague tucking into a balti curry during his tour of the West Midlands

Hague puts suite heart ahead of **Thatcher**

By ANDREW PIERCE POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

WILLIAM HAGUE confirmed yesterday that he would break with tradition. and defy Baroness Thatcher. by sharing an hotel room with his fiancee at the Tory conference. .

Despite protests from Tory traditionalists, led by the former Prime Minister, Mr Hague, 36, and Ffion Jenkins, 29, will book into the same £300-a-night suite at the Imperial Hotel in Blackpool.

Mr Hague insisted in a radio interview yesterday that he was determined to do his "own thing". John and Norma Major and Margaret and Denis Thatcher have stayed in the suite.

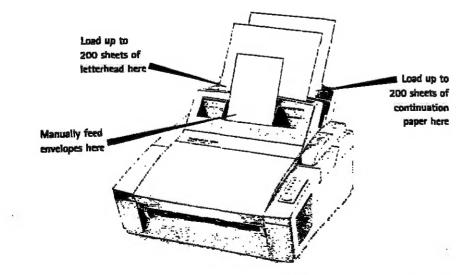
People know we are getting married in December," he said. "We are absolutely committed to each other." he said on BBC Radio 5 Live. Mr Hague, who lives with Miss Jenkins in a flat in West London, added: "I don't think people take exception to people in that situation being very close and spending a lot of time together."

Mr Hague said he would not be cowed by media critieism or adverse comments from party members. Lady Thatcher feared the latter might be upset by pictures of the couple coming down the stairs after staying in the same room overnight.

Mr Hague added: "A part--ner is extremely important for support in good times and

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A literate democrat succeeds with gentle persuasion

"NINETEEN ninety-seven is the date of a seismic rumble! A political earthquake!" Thus spake the president of the Liberal Democrats, Robert Maclennan, at Eastbourne yesterday. Mr Maclennan is no earthquake. Nor is he a seismic rumble. Even as a minor tremor, he hardly reg-

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isters on the Richter scale. The MP for Caithness. Sutherland & Easter Ross could be compared to the slight shaking of a petal in the breeze. But he is an honest politician, a thinker and a wordsmith. The persistence

allow space to brave originals such as Conrad Russell; no other conference would have accorded Robert Maclennan the standing ovation he enjoyed yesterday

The pained, schoolmasterly and slightly querulous Scot will hear reported today only those passages deemed newsworthy in the controversy about cooperating with Labour. Bite-sized chunks for butterfly minds are what survive broadcasting editors' pencils, and PR-wise politicians see diminishing point in our politics of sensitive in drafting fine, extended intellects like his gives hope prose which will never be reported. But here, at least, is



Democrat president's speech which deserves a wider audience.

Labour, said Mr Maclennan, offered "a sort of bravura vacuum". The Tories "relied on fear. Old, tried and trusted ... After 18 years the Tories had nothing to hope for but fear." To the discomfort of the platform party, their president was evenhanded between the two paras adjectives in search of a noun, he added: "In a sense. Tony Blair is like Fortinbras. the character with the best timing in all Shakespeare. He comes on in Act V, scene 2, of Hamlet to find an army of

ters and, not surprisingly, says that he is taking over. The last Tory Government was, anyway, a bit like Hamlet, with a decent, dithering lead, any number of untrustworthy courtiers, a ghost

dead and dying main charac-

(female) who kept barging in, and the Tory party herself cast in the role of Ophelia, floating downstream, chanting snatches of old songs, pefore being dragged under. drowned, and given a bad-tempered funeral."

Referring (without naming her) to the "outpouring of distress and emotion" which had followed the death of Diana, Princess of Wales. Maclennan detected a sort of national confusion and selfsuspicion. "I think there stirs in this country a rejection of whatever is uncaring, ungenerous, insular and grindingly arithmetical."

He framed the problem

government refuses to con-front: "We are still a relatively rich country but deprivation of opportunity is still relatively widespread." Against such a draft a spin-doctor would scrawl a marginal note: Toughen up. Try despair / underclass / ab-

ject / millions in poverty." To me, the moderation of Mr Maclennan's language added to its power. During one of his speeches I remember his invoking Milton, Pla-Shakespeare (several references), Proust, Gide and

At the peroration of yesterday's address, he described

at least two minor French

his party's spirit. The belief in human diversity; the belief that the free interplay of conflicting ideas will create new, yet better ideas, and a willingness to trust

people."
This struck me as a fair claim. Failing to overstate, it might have failed to inspire:

but Madennan took the risk. The whole conference rose to applaud him. Mr Madennan looked bewildered at the approval - perhaps fearful that he had said something unwise. But he deserved his applause and his party deserves applause for applaud-

MARTIN BEDDAL

Student fees scheme attacked

IN BRIEF

The Liberal Democrats launched a campaign yesterday against the Government's plans to introduce tuition fees for university students. Speaker after speaker attacked Labour's policy and representatives backed a motion rejecting tuition fees for first

degrees.
Don Foster, the party's education spokesman told the conference that Gordon Brown would be remembered for ever as the Chancellor who brought in "the student poll tax". Phil Willis, the higher education spokesman, said that plans for the millennium dome should should be abandoned and the money used for student grants. He added: The message from this conference to the Government must be loud, clear and resolute - have the courage to invest in education."

Many Liberal Democrat. MPs are angry at their own leadership's intention to scrap the party's policy of raising income tax by lp to boost spending on education. Paddy Ashdown indicated on Monday that the change would come before the next election. Party insiders predicted that the federal policy committee would oppose the plan, which is widely seen as a sop to

Labour accused over pollution

Matthew Taylor, the Lib Dem environment spokesman, ac-cused the Government of spouting rhetoric about green issues without taking effective action to curb pollution. He said emissions of carbon dioxide - one of the "greenhouse gases" that cause global warming — had risen since May. "If the last few months of Labour is anything to go by then no-one should any longer believe that a change of government necessarily means a greener government."

The conference defied the leadership by backing a policy to speed up the rate of petrol price rises to ensure a reduction in greenhouse gases. Delegates overwhelmingly voted in favour of an annual 8 per cent rise in petrol prices, rather than the 6 per cent imposed by the Government.

Human rights promise 'hollow'

Jenny Tonge, the Liberal Democrat spokeswoman on 🗗 international development, accused the Government of making "hollow promises" on human rights. She attacked ministers' decision not to block the export of Hawk jets and armoured personnel carriers to Indonesia, describing it as the first major failure of Labour's ethical

Dr Tonge, who is MP for Richmond Park, also paid tribute to the efforts made by Diana, Princess of Wales, in campaigning for a worldwide ban on anti-personnel landmines. "Her relentless efforts should remind us ... that controversy should not deter us from pursuing our principles and that at times risks need to be taken to achieve greater goals."

Call for inquiry into euthanasia

Calls for a Royal Commission on voluntary euthanasia will be debated by the conference tomorrow. A motion to be proposed by the writer and broadcaster Sir Ludovic Kennedy suggests that a commission should investigate the implications of allowing doctors to end the lives of termi-

nally ill and suffering patients. The discussion follows recent controversy over admis-sions by GPs that they have hastened the deaths of

Ashdown to warn of risk needed for more success

By JILL SHERMAN, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

PADDY ASHDOWN will today urge his party not to tie his hands over further links with Labour, giving warning that the Liberal Democrats will have to take risks to build on their present success.

Mr Ashdown will make clear today that he intends to work more closely with Lab-our where it benefits his own party, such as on the constitution, a single currency and Northern Ireland. He will also call on Tony Blair urgently to commit Britain to joining a single currency at the turn of the century in an atempt to secure a common position between two parties on EMU. Mr Ashdown's decision to take on his critics, who have

accused him of selling out to Labour, follows a stinging attack on him by Peter Mandelson, the Minister without Portfolio. In an article in The Times yesterday, Mr Mandelson accused the Liberal Democrat leader of pandering to his party by attacking Labour's spending

Representatives at the party's conference in Eastbourne Mandelson's intervention and stepped up their attacks on the Government's proposed tuition fees for students and its environmental policy. Andrew Stunell said: "Dear Peter. If you want to negotiate, please negotiate. If you want to blackmail our leader, please

get lost." Today Alistair Darling. Chief Secretary to the Treasury, will give a robust defence of the Government's spending plans and call on the Liberal Democrats to halt their continuing gibes about health and education spending. At a iringe meeting. Mr Darling will argue that it is all very

well to co-operate with the



Liberal Democrats on the constitution but the party would have to be more realistic about economic issues.

Today Mr Ashdown will be seen as bowing to Labour's demands when he calls on his party to trust him and allow him "to take risks with ideas. risks with policies and risks with politics". He is already facing a party backlash over moves to drop the party's key policy of adding an extra penny to income tax to boost education spending. Insiders said that several senior MPs were furious that he was trying to bounce them into dropping a policy they

today, Mr Ashdown will warn his party that it must grab the opportunities of one of the most "fluid" period of politics this century. Liberal Demo-crats should build on the chance of closer collaboration with Labour to influence the Government's agenda in key areas and lead the debate.

In the first four months of the Labour Government, the Liberal Democrats have secured PR in Europe, five seats on a joint Cabinet committee and the promise of a commission on PR at Westminster, he will say. This could help it to gain seats in Europe and in a Scottish Parliament. But Mr Ashdown will also

insist that the Liberal Demo-

EASTBOURNE been surpised and hurt by the

Mandelson and Mr Darling were echoing Mr Blair's own frustration about the Liberal

But in his conference speech

he was clearly stung by Mr Mandelson's remarks and vowed to press on with criticising Labour for adopting the Tory's spending plans. While he insisted that Mr Mandelson's attack could not have been more opportune and had played into his hands. colleagues said that he had

> ferocity of the personal Other senior Liberal Democrat MPs were angry that Labour had once again tried to hijack their conference. Two years ago Mr Blair talked about closer co-operation with the Liberal Democrats in an interview that dominated the first few days of their annual meeting. But Labour sources made clear that both Mr

crats will not drop their con-

structive opposition to Labour's plans for health and

education. Yesterday morning

Democrats' "oppositionitis".

Today Mr Ashdown will try to set the agenda on Europe by urging Mr Blair to spell out the Government's position on EMU. He will urge Labour to take Britain into a single currency by 2001 at the latest.

Last night Malcolm Bruce, the Treasury spokesman, gave message on EMU. He called on Tony Blair to set out a 'declaration of intent", committing Britain to the principle of a EMU membership and of joining as early as possible.

Mr Bruce conceded that it was now increasingly unlikely that the Government would be prepared to join a single currency by 1999. "The indecision in Labour, and particularly Tory, ranks has left Britain in our view poorly



Simon Eddy, 13. of St Austell was cheered for a speech in favour of cutting pollution in which he said: "We are living in what can only be described as a microwave. We are frying ourselves." The next speaker, Keith Melton, said: "I believe we have just seen a future leader of the Liberal Democrats. I only hope he doesn't go bald."

Shortlist quota for women fails to secure two-thirds majority

By POLLY NEWTON

THE Liberal Democrats vesterday rejected a move to give women 50 per cent of the places on every shortlist of would-be parliamentary candidates drawn up by the party.

The proposal, which in-Democrats' constitution, was thrown out despite support from the party leader, Paddy Ashdown. There were boos and hisses from the floor when Jackie Ballard, MP for Taunton and the party's spokeswoman on women's issues. said that Mr Ashdown was in favour of the idea.

Although more delegates voted for the motion than against, it did not achieve the two-thirds majority necessary

tee women at least half of the places on the party's key policy committees also failed to secure a two-thirds majority.



Ballard: backed plan

up half of the party's candidates' list at the European elections in 1999. The system, supported by representatives. will also ensure that at least haif of the total number of seats won by the Liberal go to women, although there

to legal challenge under sex discrimination laws. Mrs Ballard told the conference: "Constituency parties need to have a requirement of 50 per cent female shortlists to make sure that they all actively go out and encourage women to be candidates."

are fears that it could be open

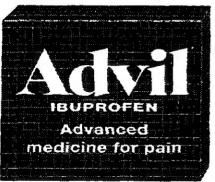
Justine McGuinness, chairman of the Women Liberal Democrats group, which put

would put "token women" on shortlists. "We don't need more token women, we need

more trained women." Campaigners for the 50 per cent option later said they were disappointed that it had not been passed but insisted

that they would not give up. Small squall will soon blow over

New from America



Nothing is proven to work better for headaches.

lmost everything said during the party conference season needs to be heavily discounted. Nothing is ever quite what it seems. Speakers exaggerate the virtues and distinctiveness of their own parties compared with their rivals. Tribalism

rules. That why the latest squall in the Labour-Liberal Democrat relationship should have no lasting The prickly assertiveness of the Liberal Democrats against Labour in

Eastbourne this week, and yesterday's blunt reaction in The Times from Peter Mandelson, will not disrupt their close contacts. There has been an element of ritual about the Mandelson affair, though Alistair Darling, the Chief Secretary, will return to the "power without responsibility" theme at a fringe meeting here today. But stripped of the bombast and posturing, the exchanges do reveal the difficulty of changing attitudes, of moving from adversarial to co-operative politics.

The parties have different views

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

about what the creation of the consultative Cabinet committee im-

plies. Labour wants the Lib Dems to behave like loyal government backbeachers and restrain their criticisms. while the Lib Dems want to retain all the freedoms of opposition. Both are Labour leaders often regard the Lib

Dems in a patronising way — as the southwestern wing of new Labour and as well-intentioned, but often woolly and ill-disciplined. There is little recognition of the Lib Dems' separate ideological and regional roots. The party reaches parts of the country than Labour does not and has had a lasting impact on the debate about constitutional reform and the environment. Labour tends to brush

Implicit in Mr Mandelson's article

Cabinet table, they should suppress their own policies and accept "the responsibilities of government". But talk of "oppositionitis" is as "naive" as Mr Mandelson accuses Paddy Ashdown of being.

The Lib Dems cannot be expected to back every item of Government policy when they are not part of that Government and the consultations at present only cover the specific, though moortant, area of constitutional reform. What the Lib Dems can be expected do is, first, to support the Government on the agreed areas of the constitutional agenda and, secondly, to adopt what Mr Ashdown calls a "constructive" tone on other items. What really irks the Labour leadership is the sanctimonious "purer than thou" tone of some Lib Dem criticisms of the Government on public spending and taxes. The Lib Dems have made some valid criti-cisms of the inconsistencies of Labour's election pledges on public services, but Mr Mandelson had a

are failing to address some of the tough choices on spending - for instance by opposing the shift to student tuition fees.

sexism in Britain if it did not

change itself. "If we want

women in this party to have

equal opportunities, we have

to change the rules. It's as

Walden in Essex said: "If we

have to take the responsibility

of presenting women of the

right calibre, not manipulate

the system to suit ourselves."

Jo White from Bath said

that the proposed change

But Val Pattie from Saffron

simple as that."

hat is needed is balance on both sides. Mr Mandelson should not try to impose a uniformity of view on the Lib Dems. while they should recognise that to be taken seriously as partners they should not abuse the Government. Lord Jenkins of Hillhead yesterday put the latest squall into its proper perspective in a typically magisterial way. Mr Mandelson, he said on the BBC, is "certainly a very skilled politician . . . but I sometimes think that he'd also be wise to realise that silence can be eloquent and a great virtue in politics. I don't think he likes periods of silence "

That is the trouble with party conferences. There is a lot of mislead-

PETER RIDDELL

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Civil war as Cape gangs battle

FROM SAM KILEY IN JOHANNESBURG

CAPE TOWN'S gang violence has intensified into a local civil war after a weekend of assassinations, bomb and grenade attacks which destroyed several homes in a conflict which threatens to shatter the Cape's tourist

Most of the victims have been children as gangsters have resorted to ever heavier weapons in the past three weeks of tit-fortat killings involving gangs and a vigilante group, People Against Gangs and Drugs [Pagad].

On Monday Sadicka Toffar, a month-old baby, was killed and her brother and two sisters, both under five, were wounded. Her seven-year-old brother's leg was torn off when gangsters threw a grenade into her home. Their home was also strafed with automatic weapons as their family's room was enguised in stames.

The evening of their death was marked by four other bomb or grenade attacks as part of gang-ongang violence and revenge attacks against the Pagad vigilantes for their killing of a prominent gangland figure earlier this year. A doctor associated with the vigilantes was shot dead in front of a patient by gangsters.

Killings are frequent in Cape Town, whose violent culture threatens to burst the luxurious bubble of the white residential areas beneath the Table Mountain which apartheid screened from the grubby lives of its victims for 47

Last week Regan Pietersen, nine, suffered burns to his neck, arms and chest after a petrol bomb was hurled at his parents' house in Mitchell's Plain, while three-year-old Bonita Herman died from burns the previous week after a similar attack on her parents' home on the Care Flats

home on the Cape Flats.

Gang leaders have issued a warning that they would soon begin targeting tourists and white homes in a move which will affect Cape's tourist

industry.

The escalation in the violence has been sparked in part by the murder of Moegamat Nur Booley, a Pagad member.

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Duck conservation stamps depicting a mallard, left, and a shelduck, right, issued by the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel. The society has joined forces with the Palestinian Council of Health to protect wildlife from the ravages of hunting in the region

Bird of prey bears message about peace to Middle East

A FALCON is doing more to bring Israelis and Palestinians together than any diplomatic negotiators. Environmentalists from both sides have set up a new joint body to protect wildlife, especially birds, to ensure that political disputes do not jeopardise one of the world's most important mi-

gratory routes.

Their immediate focus is on the lesser kestrel, a falcon, that nests for three months of the year in the warm hills of the Levant. Palestinian birdwatchers are co-operating with their Israeli counterparts to protect the nests of these migratory birds of prey, now considered endangered as only about 400 arrive each

Lesser kestrel has brought together Israelis and Arabs

where diplomacy failed, Michael Binyon reports

year. Nesting boxes are to be placed in Jericho, a breeding site for the kestrel, and also in west Jerusalem.

The two sides are also to set up a network of birdwatching centres in Israel and in the West Bank areas controlled by the Palestinian Authority to monitor the annual migrarion of millions of birds across the narrow land bridge between Africa and Asia. They will report the species and variety of birds as well as any decline in numbers and will lobby to

ensure strict observance of h local laws prohibiting the in shooting of birds during the migration season.

Birdwatchers around the world have long been concerned at the huge dangers facing migratory birds over the Levant. Shooting is not popular in Israel, and there are only 5,000 licensed hunters, mostly Druze. Strict bans on gun ownership are enforced on the Palestinians under occupation, and in neighbouring Jordan there

have long been bans on shooting birds out of season. But birds are killed on a massive scale in Syria, Turkey and Lebanon, with 500,000 hunt-

ers in Lebanon alone.

The Palestinian-Israeli Environmental Secretariat has been established to translate into action the promise by politicians who negotiated the Oslo peace accords that both sides would work together to improve and protect their environment. As a result, the Palestinian Council of Health

and the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel have come together in a new nongovernmental organisation to develop joint activities and support Israeli-Palestinian cooperation.

The body, set up in June, aims to bring together Palestinian and Israeli young people, teachers and journalists to promote environmental awareness. It will use these projects to encourage activities that break down distrust and teach each side to accept the other. The secretariat will set up a database to help decision-makers and lobbyists and encourage "responsible development and joint assessment".

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St joint expedition was regulations restricting hunting and all sides were aware of

The first joint expedition was organised two months ago, with 20 Israeli and 20 Palestinian children. More are planned for the spring migration. Children are also being encouraged to follow the bird migration routes on sites set up on the internet which will track birds using satellite

transmitters.

Both sides are enthusiastic. Thaer Abu Diab, the Palestinian co-director, said he believed such projects could hold the peace process together. He did not think the political stand-off had dimmed their determination: "Things can't get more difficult than they are now." He said the Palestinian Authority had toughened the

ing and all sides were aware of their responsibility to protect one of the most important migratory routes in the world. Birds flying south from the Arctic winter or north again in spring flew over Israel and Jordan, one of the few routes where they could avoid flying over water and rest.

Yossi Leshem, a zoologist at Tel Aviv University, said the new secretariat wanted to extend co-operation to all countries of the Middle East. "Hopefully if the peace process goes on we can work with all our neighbours. Birds know no boundaries."

Leading article, page 21

Israel 'identifies' suicide bombers

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

ISRAELI security officials believe they have identified the five Islamic militants who carried out the suicide bombings nearly two months ago in Jerusalem that killed 20 Jews and wounded more than 300.

and wounded more than 300.

Media reports said the bombers came from areas of the West Bank still under Israeli control, but that their leaders and support network were based in territory run by the Palestinian Authority. Yassir Arafat, its leader, had maintained that the bombers came from abroad.

A military intelligence officer told the Knesser's Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee that it was the tactic of Hamas, the Islamic Resistance Movement, to recruit the bombers from areas under Israeli control so as to not involve the Palestinian Authority.

Their identities became known on Sunday after troops imposed an air and land cordon around a West Bank village close to Nablus. Security sources said DNA tests were carried out on suspected relatives of the bombers. The official Voice of Palestine radio later identified the village as Assira, north of Nablus. It has a population of about 7,000 Arabs and is reputedly a Hamas stronghold. The siege of the village was continuing yesterday, prompting violent protests from Palestinians.

Binyamin Neranyahu, the Prime Minister, said: "We have a very high degree of certainty that the perpetrators came from the Palestinian areas. They did not come from abroad."

Palestinian leaders dismissed his claim that they had not done enough to prevent the bombings. Ahmed Tibi, an Arafat aide, said that if the bombers came from a village under Israeli control, "they acted under the nose of Binyamin Netanyahu".

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Paint clue at Diana crash site studied

Paris: Police scientists yesterday began analysing flakes of paint taken from the wall of the road tunnel where the car carrying Diana, Princess of Wales, crashed, in the hope of establishing whether the fatal accident followed a collision with another vehicle (Ben Macintyre writes).

The tunnel beneath the Place de l'Alma was sealed off as investigators from the National Police Criminal Research Institute moved in to remove the paint fragments, which were taken to a police laboratory outside Paris. Tests should establish the make of car, as well as the year and place of production.

The laboratory has established that debris found 30 yards before the point of impact in the tunnel came from the rear brake light of a Fiat Uno. The shards were mixed with glass from the headlight of the Mercedes in which the Princess was travelling, prompting the theory that the larger car may have hit a smaller Fiat before

Witnesses have told police they saw a second car driving ahead of the limousine, which may have contributed to the August 31 accident.

crashing.

Elysee protest: French press photographers are to stage a symbolic protest in support of ten colleagues who have been targeted in a manslaughter unquiry after the Princess's death. Several dozen photographers plan to lay their cameras at the bottom of the Elysee steps, forcing Cabinet ministers to step over them. (Reuters)



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threaten hope of easing beef ban

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSETS

THE Government's drive to persuade Europe to lift its beef ban suftered a setback yesterday when the European Commission reported the illegal presence of British beef in Germany stiffening German opposition to any easing of the 1996 embargo.

Emma Boninu, the Consumer Commissioner, said she had instructed the German authorities on Monday to close one meat processing company and take action against two others after Commission inspectors found "several dozen" tons of beef that they suspected had been fraudulently shipped from Britain. The European Union found thousands of tonnes of illegal British exports on the Continent last spring.

Yesterday's news ignited a fresh bout of anger in Germany, the country most hostile to any easing of the ban. It also fuelled German resolve at a farm ministers council in Brussels to resist moves now under way to allow the resumption of beef exports from BSE-free herds in Northern Ireland.

Franz-Josef Feiter, a German Deputy Farm Minister, said Germany had strong reservations about easing the ban. He wondered how, with inadequate checks on exports, the authorities could ensure

that British beef came only from Northern Ireland. The remarks testified to the

The remarks testified to the big political hurdles still ahead as Britain tries to follow up a finding by EU scientists last week that exports could resume for beef from certain herds but only in Northern Ireland. The province was the only British region with an adequate computerised record of its cattle.

Jack Cunningham, the Agriculture Secretary, insisted yesterday that the Government wanted the measure to apply to "certified herds" across the United Kingdom. "There was a very strong negative reaction from Germany," he said.

He did not rule out proceed-

ing on a regional approach.
"We will try to influence that decision to get the best deal for all UK farmers ... but half a loaf is better than no bread." However, he was at odds with the Commission over the next step. Franz Fischler, the Farm Commissioner, said it was now up to Britain to apply for an exemption for Northern Irish herds. The British minister insisted that it was the Commission's job to act.

Commission's job to act.

The Commission said it was prepared to move quickly with proposals for legislation once the British decided to apply. Under the Florence agreement, concluded between John

Major and fellow EU leaders in June last year, the EU promised to relax the ban if all scientific conditions are met. However, the consent of a majority of members is required. The Netherlands and Ireland indicated yesterday that they would support a resumption. Italy said it wanted veterinary officials to decide the issue before ministers. There was little support from other states. Dr Cunningham recognised the degree of resistance, saying he expected "bat-

Before yesterday's news.

German emotions were already running high in the aftermath of the discovery last summer that thousands of tonnes of British beef had been circulating on the Continent. The Commission threatened legal action against Britain last week for failing to ensure adequate controls at abattoirs. Mrs Bonino, who was put in overall charge of the BSE affair earlier this year, stoked the fire yesterday when she complained to the European Parliament that the Commission lacked resources to monitor compliance with the ban. EU inspectors had found national controls to be inadequate "so there is no guarantee of a watertight separation between the British and the non-British



Bono, lead singer of the Irish rock band U2, and guitar player. The Edge, talk to journalists after their arrival in Sarajevo yesterday to perform the first major rock concert in the city since the Bosnian war ended in 1995

Vote could put Milosevic into opposition

FROM TOM WALKER

SLOBODAN MILOSEVIC'S grip on the Serbian parliament is slipping. With votes from just one region still to be counted, Mr Milosevic's socialists have failed to win an outright majority in last weekend's election, and could be forced into opposition for the first time in nearly 50 years

Neither is it a forgone conclusion that a socialist president will succeed Mr Milosevic. Vojislav Sesetj, one of Europe's most extreme nationalists, has proved a popular choice and will contest

a run-off for the presidency with Mr Milosevic's puppet candidate. Zoran Lilic, on October 5.

There has been little celebration in Belgrade at Mr Milosevic's reverses. Many of Serbia's students and struggling middle classes are just as wary of Mr Seselj's firebrand nationalism. The diplomatic community fears likewise that Mr Seselj could spark instability in the Balkans and even wreck the Dayton peace accord.

peace accord.

So far the Socialists have won 98 seats in the 250-seat Parliament, with Mr Seseij's Radical Party picking up 80 seats and Vuk Draskovic's Serbian Renewal

Movement gathering 45. Mr Draskovic fell out of the race for the presidency with 787,836 votes of the 90 per cent counted: Mr Lilic took 1.286 million votes and Mr Seseli 1.025 million.

The Belgrade press has for months carried rumours of a secretive pact between Mr Milosevic and Mr Draskovic and analysts believe the two men are determined to keep Mr Seselj's extreme nationalists in opposition. Mr Seselj and Mr Draskovic however, are old friends and were best men at one another's weddings, and an alliance between them — putting the socialists into opposition, is not out of the question.

EU will • extend social laws to Britain

By Charles Bremner

THE European Commission is to start the legal machinery today for extending to Britain laws on parental leave and works councils that were adopted under the social chapter during the time of the Conservative Government.

Conservative Government.

The Commission's two proposed directives bring Britain into line with the rest of the European Union on social policy now that the Labour Government has ended the British opt-out from the chapter, negotiated by John Majorer, negotiated by John Majorer Maastricht in 1992. The chapter has been incorporated in the new Union treaty, which is to be signed in Amsterdam next week.

Amsterdam next week.

Once the directives are passed by the council of member states later this year.

Britain will have two years to enact laws to comply with the existing two social chapter directives. These require big companies operating in more than one EU state to set up councils to "inform and consult employees" and all employers to give three months minimum unpaid leave on the birth of a child as well as time off for other urgent family reasons.

Since agreeing to sign up to the chapter, Britain has already backed one new social law, which makes it easier for employees to win suits over sexual discrimination.

Padraig Flynn, the Social Affairs Commissioner, has promised not to push for new legislation that could increase the burden on employers and drive up Europe's already high level of unemployment. But other measures are in preparation. These include a plan to extend works councils to all but the smallest

Tensions are already apparent between Tony Blair's determination to keep labour markets flexible and the desire by the Commission. France and other member states to use social laws to combat what they see as the growing insecurity being inflicted on workers by increased global competition.



A villager comforts a mourner outside Algiers

Algiers in panic after rebels murder 85 Fixom Ben Macintyrus early hours of yesterday, and came just fear had been caused by "terrorist acts intervene in the crisis," he said. The

IN PARES

PANIC spread through Algiers yesterday after Muslim rebels butchered at least 85 civilians in the suburbs of the Algerian capital in one of the worst acts of brutality in six years of fighting.

Security forces said that 85 people were burnt to death or had their throats cut and dozens more were injured in the attack on inhabitants of Bentoumi-Bentalha on the outskirts of Algiers. Residents put the death toil at between 180 and 200 people.

The assault by fundamentalists bat-

tling to overthrow the country's military-backed regime lasted into the

three weeks after a similar attack on the suburb of Sidi Rais in which 98 residents were slaughtered — the highest single official death toll in the conflict.

Until this summer the rebels had concentrated their attacks on isolated rural hamlets and the change of tactics has provoked terror in the capital with inhabitants forming vigilante groups armed with knives, clubs and petrol bombs to defend themselves.

The authorities seldom comment directly on what are termed "cowardly-acts" by "criminal elements", but last weekend Ahmed Ouyahia, the Prime Minister, conceded that the climate of

fear had been caused by "terrorist acts perpetrated in August, the blackest month since 1994". Mr Ouyahia also denied that the

Government was negotiating with the banned Islamic Salvation Front [FIS] which was leading in the 1991 general election before the Government cancelled the poll. About 60,000 people have died in the ensuing bloodshed.

A spokesman for the FIS in Paris condemned the latest massacre and said it raised "many questions" since "the areas affected had been strongholds of the FIS" which were now apparently being "punished" by the heavily-armed rebels. "We ask the United Nations Secretary-General to

latest massacres have also added a new level of confusion. They are plainly intended to show that the militants can strike civilians living within range of military installations, but they may also reflect power struggles between rival fundamentalisacions.

On Monday another 45 people were murdered in villages in Medea province, south of Algiers, according to local reports.

Some of the rural killings may have a strong criminal element, according to analysts, with hired bands attempting to drive villagers from valuable farmland.

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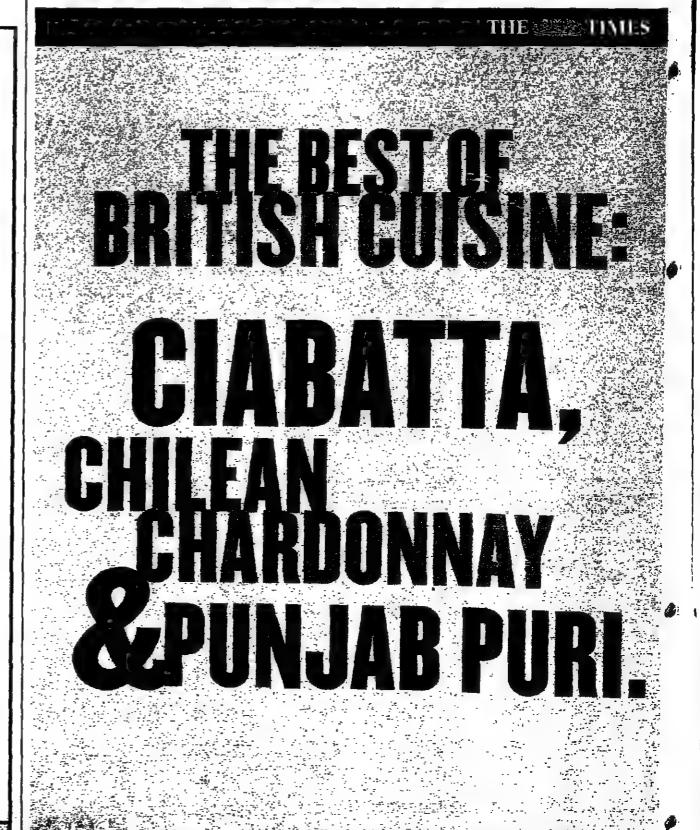
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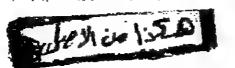


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CHANGING TIME



Briton races to be fastest man on earth

Pilot challenger for land speed record retains ice-cool expertise in desert heat

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FROM GILES WHITTELL AND ANJANA AHWA IN GERLACH, NEVADA

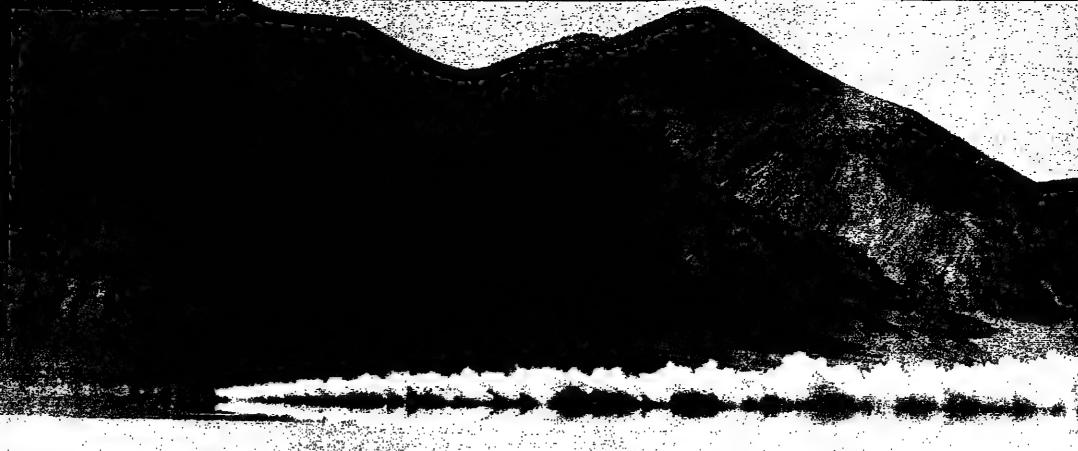
A NOVELIST could not have crafted a figure more suited to the role of British hero than Andy Green, At 6ft 3in, with blue-green eyes, a square jaw and an ice-cool manner, the RAF pilot cuts a dashing figure in the Thrust SSC desert camp.

Squadron Leader Green, 35, who took a double-first in mathematics at Oxford and joined the RAF on graduation, was chosen three years ago from among 32 men who responded to a call to become the fastest man on earth. Most applicants were former or serving pilots; shortlisted applicants had to undergo a battery of IQ and personality tests, a driving assessment by Russell Brooks, the former national rally champion, and a 24-hour overnight test of stamina and co-ordination in a Farnborough heat chamber.

To prepare for the intense heat in the Thrust SSC cockpit under the desert sun, Squadron Leader Green, who has flown Phantoms for six years. endured a regime of "extremely hot" baths, twice a day for several weeks. His formidable poise under pressure, essential for this pioneering endeavour, has earned him a reputation in Gerlach, the nearest town, as something of

an automaton. Squadron Leader Green has pursued a punishing schedule since coming out to the desert in early September. He is up at 4.30am for breakfast at 5am. At 6.15am, the Thrust team have their first meeting of the day. Squadron Leader Green runs through three A4 pages of checks to ensure the car's 120 sensors are functioning correctly. "It's like a ritual now," he said.

After each run he is de-briefed immediately about how the car ran, and then is transported to the waiting press to answer questions. Then it is back to the camp to help out with the car, distribe report on the day



Andy Green pilots Thrust in another attempt at the land speed record in Nevada. His schedule is punishing but he has shown stamina and grace. Driving round the M25 is just as risky, he says

runs, and have lunch. There are further meetings at 4pm and 6pm.

Gaps in the day are taken up with talking to a steady stream of journalists, autographing T-shirts, and showing the car to land-speed fanatics who have flown in from all over the world. He

6 Stepping into 'Thrust' is like stepping into a jet fighter, then it's like driving a racing car 9

carries out these duties with grace, regarding himself as greatly privileged. Squadron Leader Green ensures he

is in bed by 9.30pm. He is not fazed at all by his role. "I'm not a celebrity," he said, in a corner of the Miner's Club, a British watering hole in Gerlach, on his arrival here beyond the boys-in-the-garage syndrome. If I walk out the door and get knocked over they can replace me in a couple of weeks."

Neither does he feel fear. "Stepping into Thrust is like stepping into a jet fighter, and after that, it's exactly like driving a racing car," he said. i'm just very keen to get the car to a high specification so we can achieve supersonic."

He said he regards climbing Everest as more risky. And he does not contemplate mortality. "You could define driving round the M25 as being close to death."

Green uses electric fuel cocks to control two Rolls-Royce Spey jet engines during his slow acceleration to around 150 mph. Foot pedals governing fuel flow to the engines' afterburners then provide staggering acceleration from 200 to 600mph in roughly 20 seconds, generating a ten-mile dust cloud. Each run burns 240 gallons of kerosene in a minute.

The ten-ton Thrust car has a theoretical top speed of 850mph and uses active susI cars and built by Jeremy Bliss, a former consultant to Ayrton Senna, the late Formula One champion. The system can raise the car's rear wheels by four inches in a fraction of a second to maximize downforce and, in principle, prevent the

car becoming airborne. The Thrust team also boasts the world's fastest fire engine - a modified Jaguar with a 200-litre tank of fire-fighting foam, a top speed of 140mph and walnut trim. Squadron Leader Green is confident that the "firechase" will not be used: supercomputer simulations and a rocket-powered

scale model suggest the shock wave created by passing through the sound barrier at around 750 mph will not destabilise the car. It is unsurprising, perhaps, that Squadron Leader Green

should be so composed. The head of communications, who co-ordinates the runs, is Squadron leader Jayne Millington, his girlfriend. The couple met five years ago at RAF Coningsby, Lincolnshire, Green trained to fly Tornados. Squadron leader Millington, 35, read physics at Oxford but the couple never met during

their student years. She helps to manage air defence policy at the Ministry of Defence.

It was Squadron Leader Millington who first saw the advertisement for a driver for Thrust. "I saw it and thought it was something Andy might be interested in," she said.

If and when the sound barrier on land is broken, Squadron Leader Green will transfer to RAF Leuchars, in Scotland to train further as a Tornado pilot, and Squadron Leader Millington will move to RAF Buchan in Aberdeen to pursue an air battle manage

LAND SPEED RACER TERMINOLOGY

☐ Fodding: Foreign Object Detection: combing the desert for stones and other debris that might damage an engine by being sucked

☐ Togometer: literally, "to go" meter, cockpit gauge telling driver distance to go to end of run. ☐ Acogah button: knob in

pit station mobile communications unit that activates warning claxon with a distinctive "acceah" sound. ☐ Pit station: roped-off compound on lake bed ten miles from Gerlach where car is stored and

☐ Mazola: slang usage of popular brand name. in case meaning high grade oil for aero engine 🗖 VlP One: Richard Noble's radio call-sign at

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to repair computer

Mir space station slept yesterday after a hard night shift fixing the main computer and restoring automatic steering, crucial for a planned docking on Sunday with the US shutde Atlantis.

The cosmonauts have done a good job during the night and have to sleep now," a Mission Control spokesman said. He added that the three-man crew had to repair the main computer by using spare tools and parts of old malfunctioning computers.

Automatic orientation by ten gyrodine rotating devices, which help to keep the station in a stable position in orbit, was fully restored. The spokesman said Mission Control and the cosmonauts still did not know what kind of "brown substance" the crew saw floating from Mir on Monday. He added that repairs to the air purifying system, which removes car-

bon dioxide, had not begun. The spokesman said a video link-up was planned to discuss the situation on Mir and preparations for the Atlantis flight. Nasa would then tell the Russians whether it would allow the shuttle mission to go ahead. (Reuters)

Cook clashes with senator over UN debt

ROBIN COOK, the Foreign Secretary, got into an ugly spat with a powerful rightwing American senator yester-day after insisting that Washington should pay its debt to the United Nations in full and on time".

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A spokesman for Senator Jesse Helms, the North Carolina Republican who chairs the Senate foreign relations committee, described as "absolute-ly not helpful" Mr Cook's criticism of Congress's refusal to pay off all of Washington's \$1.5 billion (£937 million) in

in a tart message to Congress, Mr Cook had said during a speech to the UN General Assembly that every country should pay UN dues based on its share of the global economy. "It is not equitable that some members pay their contributions while others do not," he went on, "Britain pays in full and on time. Britain expects every country, however large or however small, to

Mr Helms, with Democrat Senator Joe Biden, is the architect of a compromise proposal that would repay \$900 million of the American debt on condition that Washington's contributions are cut from 25 to 20 per cent of the UN budget over the next three years. Britain pays 5.6 per cent of the UN budget. The United

Clooney: arranged



Cook and Albright meet in New York

States accounts for about 27 per cent of world economy. British officials say the socalled Helms-Biden package is inadequate and are pressing the Clinton Administration to get Congress to sweeten the offer. Mr Cook discussed the financing controversy with Madeleine Albright, the Secretary of State, over dinner at the British Ambassador's home in

New York on Monday. Marc Thiessen, a spokesman for Senator Helms, said that the bipartisan proposal before Congress deserved support as a genuine effort to reform the world organisation and put its financing on a stable footing.

The brusque Mr Cook had a disastrous meeting with the stately Senator Helms in

staged a protest against

George Clooney, the actor and

anti-paparazzi campaigner, by

refusing to take his picture as

he arrived for the premiere of

his new film The Peacemaker

Clooney, who plays Dr Doug Ross in the American

television series ER, was

booed by about 60 photogra-

phers outside Manhattan's

(James Bone writes).

Ziegfeld Theatre.

Anti-paparazzi actor

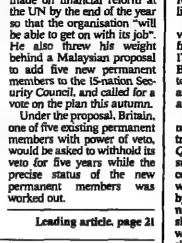
left out of the picture

New York: Photographers cott of Hollywood stars from a

Washington in May, which the senator interrupted after only 20 minutes of the scheduled half an hour because he found the Foreign Secretary's manner too abrasive.

A congressional source described the encounter as "increasingly unpleasant" and said the two, of different ideological stripes, had "disagreed disagreeably". The row flared again when a British official, travelling with Mr Cook in New York, said the Foreign Secretary knew how difficult it would be to get Congress to improve its offer on UN funding because he had "spent half an hour in a

room with Senator Helms". In his speech to the UN, Mr Cook called for progress to be made on financial reform at so that the organisation "will behind a Malaysian proposal urity Council, and called for a



major studio because of intru-

sive coverage by one of its tabloid television pro-grammes and after the death

of Diana, Princess of Wales,

he accused the paparazzi of behaving like crack cocaine

Celebrity photographers

who attend staged events such

Divers hope to identify pirate's flagship

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

THE British naval officer who captured Blackbeard in 1718 beheaded the world's most notorious pirate and hung his bloody visage as irrefutable proof from the

bowsprit of a warship.
At the end of next week, North Carolina archaeologists hope to explore the shallow depths of the Atlantic Ocean in search of equally convincing evidence of the

English pirate's final legacy.
They hope to establish beyond doubt that a mound of waterlogged timbers and rusting metal on the sea bed near Beaufort is the Queen Anne's Revenge, the flagship with which Blackbeard terrorised waters from the Carolinas to the Caribbean.

The story goes that the 103ft vessel, stolen a year earlier from the French, sank in June 1718 after hitting a sandbar. Blackbeard is said to have told his lieutenants to go ashore, meet the Governor and ask for a pardon.

He then ordered his remaining crew to haul the treasure and cargo from the Queen Anne's Revenge to a smaller sloop with which he continued to pillage until he was captured and beheaded by Lieutenant Robert Maynard five months later. The shipwreck, in about 20ft of water less than a mile offchaeologists from the North Carolina Maritime Muscum in Beaufort who, depending on weather conditions, aim to start removing sand from the

hull next month.

Experts have described the ship as the most important discovery of its kind in 20 years — only the second pirate ship to have been found off the US coast. The marine archaeologists are 80 per cent certain it is the Blackbeard flagship. Every-one who has visited the wreck agrees that is bristles with cannon and other artefacts. During two dives last year, a



including the brass barrel of a blunderbuss, a 24lb cannonball, and a bell inscribed with the date 1709.

"Nothing we have says 'this definitely is the Queen Anne's Revenge but everything looks right," said Richard Lawrence who runs the state's underwater archaeology department.

The sooner we can get back to the wreck and make that determination, the sooner all things, like funding. will come into focus." It may take five years to

establish the vessel's identity

already known about Blackbeard and others who belonged to the golden age of Although Blackbeard has been assumed to be the

significantly alter what is



nickname of Edward Teach. scholars remain uncertain whether his name was Thatch or Theach, or whether he was born in Bristol, Philadelphia or While historical records

are sparse, the mythology is enough. He was an ogre, tall. bloodthirsty, with a booming voice, savage appetite and a bushy black beard that hung down to his belly. He would often twist it into pigtails and light it with cannon fuses.

His legacy has already brought millions of tourists to the North Carolina coast where he died off Ocracoke SUMMARY

20,000 flee fighting in Cambodia

the poor

Phnom Penh: An estimated 20,000 new Cambodian refugees are reported to have fled to Thailand to escape fighting in western Cambodia (writes Caroline Gluck).

The Government says the clashes followed a dispute over territory among former Khmer Rouge guerrillas who defected to the Cambodian Army last year. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees is currently assessing plans to repatriate some of the 25,000 Cambodi-ans who crossed into Thailand last month.

Tour bus tragedy

Vienna: An Austrian motorist died and II British tourists were injured, one seriously, when their tour bus reversed in a car park, partially block-ing a lane of the highway near Regau, 100 miles west of Vienna. The rear of the coach was struck by a car on the killing the highway, driver. (AFP)

Appeal backfires Monticello: Aundra Akins, 18, convicted of the murder of a British tourist in Florida in

1993, was given a life sentence on appeal, overturning his original 27-year sentence. Akins, who had pleaded guilty to second-degree murder, appealed on a technicality. His awyer said the longer sentence was inappropriate. (AP)

New runway

Paris: France decided to double the number of runways at Charles De Gaulle airport north of Paris rather than build a third airport to handle the capital's rising volume of air traffic. Jean-Claude Gayssot, Transport Minister, vowed to do more to lessen aircraft noise to placate angry residents. (Reuter)

Direct line to jail

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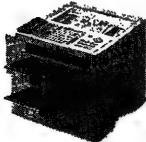
Iderly nuns deft. V

Buenos Aires: Hector Hugo Marcone, 40. a university student, was detained for making almost 2,000 threatening phone calls to businessmen and leaders of Argentina's Jewish community, federal police said. (AFP)



SUPER G3 LASER FAX

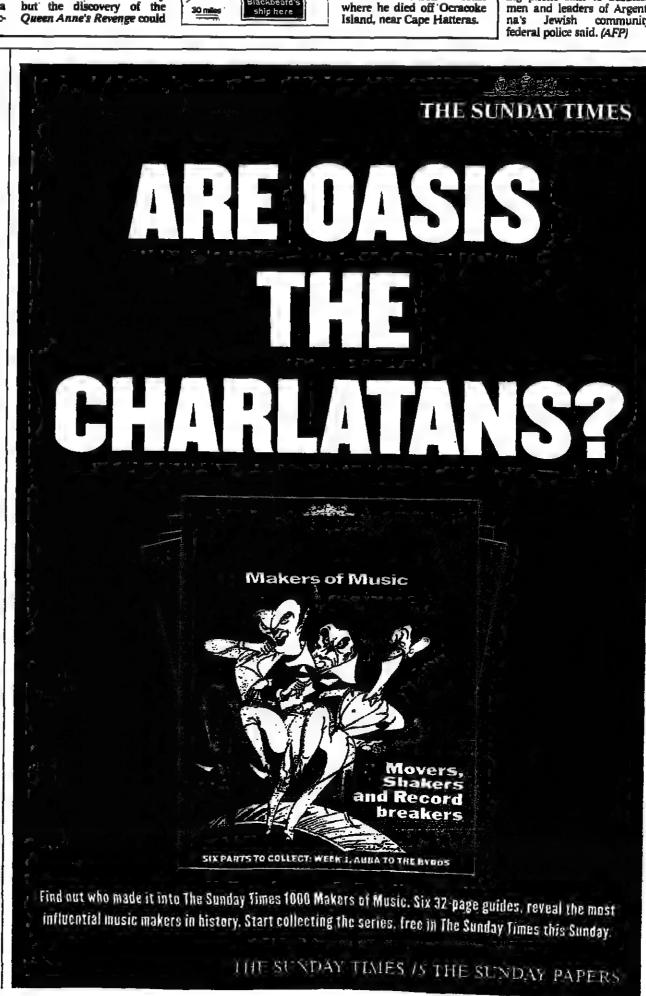
The new UF-880 doesn't hang about. It's capable of sending an entire page in around 3 seconds, thanks to the Super G3 modern (33.6-Kbps) - the cutting edge of technology developed by Panasonic,

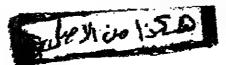


It doesn't stop there. With the latest JBIG compression capabilities, it's able to send documents with photographs or back-shaded text. the other end, in remarkably less

But speed isn't everything. It standard, that's upgradable to

So if you need the ultimate





isptibal .

Li Peng tells West to help

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY

IN A speech filled with almost extinct Maoist rhetoric, Ll Peng, the Prime Minister of China, told the World Bank yesterday that the West must stop giving orders to the underdeveloped world and listen to its demands.

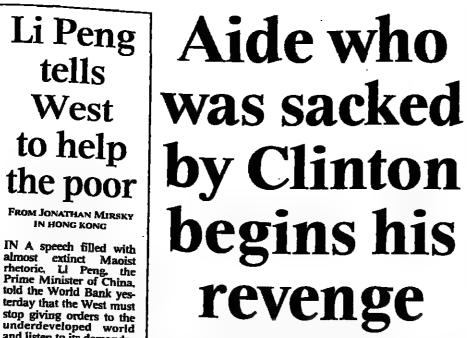
Mr Li's speech, a vintage example of his hardline grim-visaged style, contrasted with the address the night before by Zhu Rongji, the Vice-Premier, who delighted his audience with his wit and charm

"As the Chinese saving goes, seeing it once is better than hearing about it a hundred times," Mr Li said. The audience was left in no doubt that while in economic affairs China was rapidly relaxing and reforming, in politics it remained as rigid as Mr Li's body language.

Mr Li said the developing countries "have freed themselves from imperialist and colonialist domination and won national liberation and independence after centuries of foreign oppression and enslavement". At this moment in his speech he looked up to give his first and only smile.

The rest of his speech was aimed generally at the West and at the United States in particular, as the Americans in the hall where Mr Li last appeared in Hong Kong for the handover ceremonies commented afterwards.

The prosperity of a small number of countries, Mr Li noted, "cannot last long on the basis of the poverty and backwardness of the majority of countries". To help poor countries is "a shared responsibility of the internamust furnish funds and



FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT CLINTON last night suffered the first instalment in the revenge of Harold Ickes, the sacked senior aide whose copious notes may hold the key to irregular White House fundraising for the Democratic re-election effort.

A memorandum leaked yesterday indicated that Mr Clinton called a wealthy Californian businessman from the White House and received a \$50,000 (£31,000) campaign donation two weeks later. The strongest evidence yet to sur-face that the President tried to raise money from the White House, a violation of federal election law, the note may be the start of a vast treasure chest of information kept by Mr Ickes during his four years as Deputy Chief of Staff.

In one corner, Mr Ickes had scrawled the words BC called", referring to Bill Clinton. He had ringed the name of John Torkelson, an investment banker from San Diego, and written beside his name, "50,000" and "25, 25". Within



Ickes his memo hints

two weeks of the 1994 memorandum, Princeton Venture Research, Mr Torkelson's company, had sent two cheques, each for \$25,000.

The emergence of the note came as Janet Reno, the Attorney-General, launched a 30-day inquiry to determine whether an independent prosecutor should review all calls made by Mr Clinton and Al Gore, the Vice-President. Mr Gore has admitted making 46 calls from his White House office while the President has repeatedly claimed he has no memory of making any such

But it is the role of Mr Ickes which may prove pivotal in both the Justice Department investigation and Senate campaign finance hearings. He appeared in private before the Senate this week but has yet to be called publicly. Republicans in the Senate,

employing documents from both the files of the Democratic National Committee and from Mr Ickes, have also compiled strong evidence that a series of 103 political coffee meetings at the White House were staged to raise \$26.4 million. That may be just the tip of the iceberg. For 25 years, Mr Ickes, 58,

has been a close friend of Mr Clinton. He has been caught up in almost every scandal from Arkansas to Washington and described himself in the White House as the "director of the sanitation department". He was unceremoniously

sacked after Mr Clinton's reelection, a pawn in the hiring of Erskine Bowles, the more conservative new Chief of

Elderly nuns defy Vatican eviction

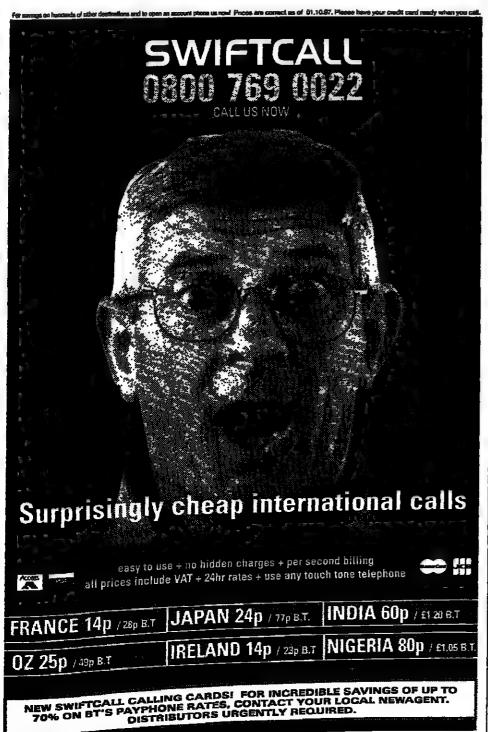
Spanish nuns yesterday became squatters in their own convent after refusing to obey Vatican authorities who have demanded that they move out (Giles Tremlett writes).

The five elderly nuns yesterday remained ensconced at their Convent of The Assumption in the town of Espinosa de Henares, near Madrid, after ignoring a Vatican order for

them to leave at midnight on Monday. A church spokesman said the nuns were too old to keep the convent going and warned that they would be evicted in a month's time if they continued their sit-in. The nuns have been told they also face expulsion from the Order

of the Poor Clares. More than a hundred convents are estimated to have closed their doors over the have died and the supply of young novices has dried up. Some 700 convents remain, but these are being slowly shut

down or merged. The nuns at Espinosa de Henares, aged between 50 and have become popular heroines, though some of them have spent more than 50 years cloistered inside the convent and have never been seen.





Haze forces emergency in Sarawak

By Our Foreign Staff

THE haze overhanging much of South-East Asia reached new danger levels yesterday as 2,000 Malaysian firemen prepared to leave for Indonesia to help tackle the jungle fires that have caused the smoke and led to a declaration of emergency in Sarawak. The Malaysian Government is considering evacuating the entire populations of Sarawak and Sabah, its two provinces in Borneo.

The density of the haze, which has reduced visibility to arm's length in

Kuching, the capital of Sarawak, and in many other towns has forced airports to close and prevented relief workers and supplies from reaching those affected. Reports said more than 5,000 people in Sarawak have sought medical treatment.

The pollutant index in Kuching yesterday reached 839 - well over the 500 level at which the haze is considered very hazardous. An index of 350 is equivalent to smoking 20 cigarettes a day.

In bustling Kuching, schools and most businesses were closed. Mike Derianto, a factory owner, said: "No one goes outside unless they have to. And everything smells and tastes of smoke."

In Kalimantan, the Indonesian half of Borneo, an official in Balikpapan said: We are not sure whether the Malaysian firemen will be able to get here." Environmental movements in Indone-

sia blamed the Government for not being strict enough on plantation owners who have cleared and burnt at least 750,000 acres of forest in the past two months.

The Foreign Office advised British tourists to Malaysia to "limit outdoor activity" if travelling to affected areas.

Japan and **US sign** pact on defence

FROM JAMES BONE

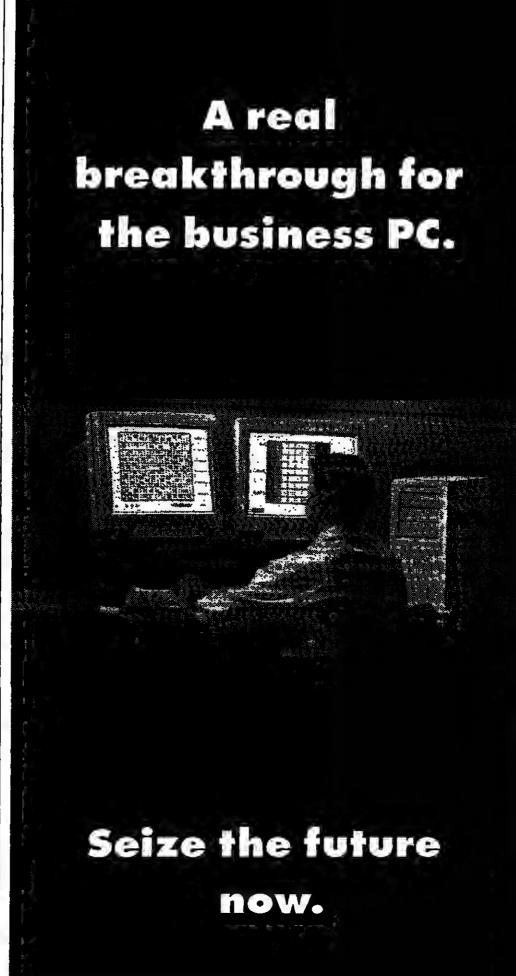
THE United States and Japan yesterday agreed a defence pact which, despite Chinese misgivings, would give Japa-nese troops a non-combatant role in support of US forces in any regional conflict.

The accord, announced in New York by the Foreign and Defence Secretaries of the two allies, comes after pressure from America for increased Japanese involvement in Asia's defence following the Cold War. "We have rewritten our partnership to meet the challenges of this new era," said Madeleine Albright, the US Secretary of State.

It revises defence guidelines established in 1978 and pushes the limits of Japan's pacifist post-Second World War con-stitution, which bans its "Self-Defence Forces" from military operations beyond its 200-mile territorial waters.

About 40 kinds of "rearend" support that Japan could offer include search-andrescue and evacuating foreignsupplying food and fuel to US forces and transporting US soldiers to US vessels at sea.

Japan was persuaded to assume the new role by growing regional tensions, particularly the threat of famine-ravaged North Korea's collapse. Beijing is unhappy at the idea of Japan providing support to American troops in situations such as the recent Taiwan Straits stand-off.



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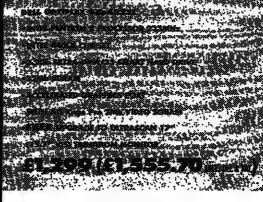
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A longing for something fancy

here are, I dare say you will have no-ticed, an awful lot of Clean Lines about this season. Sharply cut little jackets, and skirts abruptly curtailed like the petticoats of the old lady in the nursery rhyme, and acres of minimalist tailoring.

This is not a look that comes very easily to an English girl. It requires a good deal of maintenance, for a start. In France and America, Doing

Neat presents no problem. Whether When men more soignée (the French), or just more hygienic (the see us in the rest of us, these heels and are nations where attractiveness is pinstripes, perceived to be in direct proportion they feel to the amount of effort put in. The all funny brushing of the hair, the manicur-

ing of the nails, the painstaking application of foundation and powder and lipliner, the rounding up of matching bag and shoes and toning (but not matching) scarf and gloves are second nature in Paris and New

In England, however, we do not feel quite comfortable with all that time spent in the beauty parlour which could more usefully be employed elsewhere - planting wallflowers, writing novels, out on the raz with our girlfriends. Why on earth (we think) pay a fortune to some ninny in a white overall to varnish your fingernails when you can just as easily do it yourself, while gleaning all the latest scandal down a red-hot telephone line from your friend Amanda?

Besides, our husbands and boyfriends are ambivalent about our attempts at Doing Neat. They think uniform chic is a jolly good thing in its proper place — on Wrens, and

policewomen, and nurses. and Brown Owls, and other reverie. But when they see us striding about in spike heels and razor-cut pinstripe pegtops with two-inch turnups it makes them feel all funny.

This is not, in itself. sufficient reason for backing away from a sharp new look. But it is a fact that, at the bottom of the soul of the most dedicated British minimalist, there

lurks the longing for Something Fancy, No doubt the origins fantastical little bits of lace and velvet and embroidery can be traced back to the Englishwoman's Childhood — the treasures of the and, in the case of embroidery, the hours spent working cross-stitch dai-

ing one's initials in lines of wobbly chain stitch on aprons and shoe bags and domestic science overalls.

But embroidery possesses other virtues besides childhood nostalgia. It has, like pearls, the generous quality of making one look instantly prettier. Simple embroidered skirts and shifts have a careless glamour that is the very opposite of studied. And for all its apparent delicacy, embroidery is durable stuff. A child's jammy fingerprint, or a cigarette carelessly wielded are death to a pristine white shirt. On an embroidered dress (one discovered at Oxfam, perhaps, rather than the pricey gens shown here) they fade into the design, appearing, if they show at all, as no more than honourable battle scars - or you could aiways revive your old skills and embroider another little

flower around the mark.



Litac beaded skirt, £275 by Matthew Williamson at Browns: cranberry cashmere cardican, £369, Carruti 1881; camisole too from Portobello Market; silver heart necklace, £75 from Detail, Symons Street SW1;



Clements Ribeiro at Selfridges, London WI; antique silver charm necklace, £120 by Detail, Symons Street SWI

Embroidering on a theme

Try delicate decoration for a look that is sweet and sharp, says Style Editor Grace Bradberry



Dinnigan at Browns, South Molton Street W1; purple cashmere tan top, £320 by Rebecca Moses at Browns; pink rose beaded choker, £375 by Erickson Beamon, Elizabeth Street SW1

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Gold stretch camisole top, £149 by Cerruti 1881; black and gold lace embroidered skirt, £468 by Elspeth Gibson; black velvet metal spike heels, £230 by Gucci. Photographer: Ryan Sullivan; stylist: Deborah

Brett; hair: Clim Mahony at The Industry for Shipton, Leighton and Lowe; make-up: Jochen Fuchs; model: Caroline Salisbury at Models 1

Candace Bahouth's Unicorn from Ehrman Tapestry



The Unicorn is one of the many wonderful designs featured in Candace Bahouth's book Mediaeval Needlepoint. Surrounded by a richly patterned border of burgundy and gold the Unicorn is worked in shades of ivory and beige with a jewel-encrusted gold collar. He sits on a carpet of forest and jade green leaves which is dotted with periwinkle and china blue flowers.

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the best of London **Fashion Week**

To celebrate London Fashion Week, Times readers are offered exclusive tickets for catwalk shows to be held at the Natural History Museum, London SW7, from October 1-3, 1997 for only £14, with a limited number of front row seats for £25.

Vidal Sassoon presents The Private View, featuring the clothes of 20 top British designers, including Amanda Wakeley, Ben de Lisi, Ally Capellino, Clements Ribeiro, Pearce Fionda, Workers for Freedom, Nicole Farhi and Helen David, right. The shows, which support Macmillan Cancer Relief, will unveil the designers' autumn-winter collections and give a preview of spring-summer 1998 collections.



Visitors will have the chance to purchase discounted end-ofseason clothes courtesy of BAA McArthur Glen, the designeroutlet specialist. Every reader who attends a show will be given a Vidai Sassoon goodie bag.

The catwalk show times are: Wed Oct 1, 6pm and 8pm; Thurs Oct 2, 12noon, 2pm, 4pm and 6pm; Fri Oct 3, 12noon, 2pm, 4pm, 6pm and 8pm.

Two exclusive fashion forums

Key figures from the fashion world discuss the future of British fashion on Saturday, October 4, in two fashion forums (£7.50, students £5). Forum One: The Industry, at Ipm, will address the balance between creativity and commercialism and how those interested in a career in fashion can make an impact. Following that, Forum Two: The Image, at 4pm, focuses on fashion's relationship with the media and role in society and asks what inspires designers. Speakers include, Colin McDowell, fashion historian, Vidal Sassoon, Hetta Scherman of Models 1, Wayne Hemingway, creative director of Red or Dead, and designers Ozwald Boateng and Roland Klein-

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VIDAL SASSOON

Heart

gjimpsing is as

langer and John Henry

Meditation, mysticism and magic

Holistic practitioners can give the impression that enlightenment is only a head massage away. But glimpsing wisdom takes a little longer, says John Lloyd

Sex was a

way to

find

wholeness,

balance

and peace

with an invitation to be sexy, split into those who bolted for the door and those who stayed and tried their best. The teacher, Leonora Lightman, had told them how to (as the name of the talk had it) "open up to ecstacy"; she had described how the sexual act made the partners in it whole - as the female part received and the male part gave. She demonstrated, with sweeping arm gestures, how the male gave through his member to the woman through her mem-

Britai,

ber to her heart. and how the woman gave from her heart to the male heart, thence to the male member and thus completed the circle. She completed her lecture by asking the audience to choose a partner and repeat the gestures with each other. Hence the exodus of some

half of the audience: though the remainder seemed to enjoy the experience Lightman had used striking

language. She said that in the transformation of sexual energy into love - the method is known as tantra — the part-ners had no need of being beggars, pleading for favours - but become gods or goddesses, kings and queens, divinely or regally bestowing sexual energy upon each other. Sex was not an end in itself, but a way to find wholeness, balance and peace.
It was terribly easy to mock.

Sex is still funny in Britain, and the collision of images of kings and queens coupled in joyful meditation with the reality of the audience — some dowdy, some unkempt, all sweating in the heat of the room - was to invite thoughts of some notional Carry on

The session was given on the curtained stage of the old Camden Town Hall towards the end of August, part of a

weekend Holistic Festival. The big hall beyond the stage was full of other occasions for mockery - such as Chris Gosselin, dressed in embroidered doublet, who talked about the magic world of the Celtic faery and sold tapes of his stories set against medieval music; a stall which warned us that we were harmlessly deluding each other and amusing the rational interloper. But something nags at the mind, as that conclusion begins to form.

First, though the people who are seeking to cajole you to buy, or be massaged, or share your miseries with them can be hard to take, others are ugh: straight talking, not hustling, clearly convinced by their own particular medium and ondly, their various messages tend to make one com-

posite message which is that there is more in the mind and body than modern life allows one to discover and deploy, and that a few techniques can help to release these hidden mental and physical treasures.

Quite a lot of it is common sense. Even the tantric sex sessions are telling you to pay attention to what you are doing, and try to do it wholeheartedly, without being crippled by inhibition or allowing your activities to become routine and empty of meaning. Throughout the wafts of incense and the blandishments of the meditation hucksters could be heard the tones of everyone's grandmother or mother, telling you to slow down, eat properly and slowly and make sure you know it's right before you take the leap.

Before much of this hugely varied holistic world, the interloper finds himself bemused, with an obscure sense that there may be something there, or even that there must be something there, and maybe



A latterday hippy at Glastonbury. Even as the holistic world is still wrapped about in Sixties hippy exclusivism at one extreme, it seeks to insert itself into the "straight" world at the other

he could experience it if he could suspend scepticism and

But increasingly, the holistic world flows in anyway: even as it is still wrapped about in Sixties hippy exclusivism at one extreme, it seeks to insert itself into the "straight" world at the other. The Holistic - or 'New Age" publisher, Brainwave, puts out two information books - the thick Holistic London and the vast Holistic Marketing Directory: they list 50

psychotherapies, 60 types of

body therapies, hundreds of shops, services, communities, centres, workshops, retreats, holistic holidays, foodshops, journals, homoeopathic pharmacies, air and water purifiers, biofeedback machines and dating agencies.

These directories, and the Holistic Festival, point to a world which has burgeoned hugely since the realisation that God was dead and had, by dying, cleared a space for a multiplicity of gods - whether at the apex of a hierarchy of masters looking after each

planet or capable of being emulated by partners in tantric sex sessions. On the market test to which we subject everything, it was working well - more and more people were buying more and more things, services and enlightenment from more and more merchants, therapists and gurus. Surely that means that some of these people are being satisfied — finding their lives

But it cannot, in the end, shake off the scent of latter-day shamanism; of a world in

which enlightenment is only a head massage and the intonement of a few "oms" away. In groping back for a "natural" way to live, through the encrustations of modern living and mass consumption and mechanistic science, the holistic practitioners are trapped between their newfound marketability and the realisation — which some must have -- that if they are to

propose anything of worth, it

must come with the warning

that this is a lifetime's endeav-

our. Faith in a hierarchy of

interplanetary masters does not come easy: or if it does, it merely confirms the apparent kookiness of the belief.

I met, last year, two women

who had sat in wooden boxes for the three years at a Buddhist monastery in Scotland. One of them said afterwards that she felt a little better, clearer in her mind, but still had a long way to go before she glimpsed wisdom. One can be over-impressed by stamina, or courage. But it seems right that wisdom takes a little longer.

MEDIA Training

reporters how to survive in a war zone Pages 23,24

Shameless self-publicity + Labour's pay poser + Age of enjoyment + BBC blunder

Currie's cruel try at spice

"THERE is no good time to announce something like this," says Edwina Currie, announcing the end of her 25year marriage as she proceeds on the publicity tour for her new novel. She's Leaving Home. But before we even get on to the delicate question of timing, we should perhaps ask why she feels it incumbent upon her to make an announcement at all.

! don't get it. Is it of such earth-shattering significance to any of us that a failed politician who's gone on to write sleazy books is getting divorced? It takes a particularly ripe combination of selfimportance and insensitivity to relay your private dealings in public in quite such a way.

Then there is the way she's done it. Even if I bappen to feel that her marriage and its dissolution is a private matter of no consequence to the public at large, I concede that if she and Mr Currie had split up without making such an announcement it might have generated more interest. I can see, at any rate, the logic of the argument even if I have little sympathy with the reasoning behind it.

But still, the chosen route seems scarcely calculated to defuse gossip and comment. There is an announcement and there is an announcement. A bald statement issued in a solicitor's dead prose is

person would feel it's all right to talk publicly like that. And there's worse. Mrs Currie informs us all that she knew the marriage was over when she realised she didn't miss her husband when they were parted. Once you know that he, some years back said, "Frankly. I miss her when



make arch or louche or downright brutal comments of her own is quite another.

It may show no more than a coarse sensibility to say "I wish I could give you a string of lovers, but I can't," but it is cruel to add, of her husband: "He wants to watch TV and 1 want to be on TV. There isn't a toyboy - 1 wish!" I can't imagine what sort of

the stiletto-sharp aggression behind her remark, for all that this is an "amicable split". Though perhaps I have no right to call Mrs Currie cruel when I, by repeating her remarks, am hardly show-

husband's feelings. There are many, anyway. who would no doubt defend her behaviour, holding it up

ing myself sensitive to her

as an example yet again of her admirable honesty and forthrightness. It is very much the modern way to find all hones-ty admirable. But surely sometimes a little dishonesty in the form of reticence might be more laudable.

Reticence ain't her strong suit. She wants to shine, to be in the spotlight, and her brilliance lies in persuading us to take her on her own account. She wants to feel that she is a brainy, sexy, foxy lady, and somehow we gladly talk about this hippy, lippy woman, with a face that's a cross between a horse and a monkey (and now, I suppose, I am being cruel), as if that's

And all this sex thing, too. Far from seeing the muchtouted raunchiness as a sign of sensuality and confidence. I begin to worry for her. If you need to draw people's attention to your own sexual attractiveness, let them know about your appetites and like to refer to your house winkingly as penis-shaped, then lady, I think you got a problem.

WELL it has always been said that the Tories have their sex scandals while the Labour Party gets into financial trouble and so much for the new political climate, for nothing's changed. The Government is certainly not behaving with impropriety, but for incompetence it is giving the memory of the Major regime a run for its

- our - money. What I can't get straight - no more than any of them can, it would appear is whether members of the Cabinet are meant to be pocketing their £16,500 pay

rise gratefully, or giving it up gracefully.

One minute it looks as if — as one minister puts it — the "hairshirt policy" is PM-approved (and you can let those initials stand for whoever you like) and the next we are given to believe that faith in restraint has given in to belief in remuneration. And the Opposition isn't playing it any better: little Hague's

The rise of confusion

admission that he gave back the money and ran doesn't come across as dignified but, rather, teacher's-pet nerdy. Now it transpires that Blair doesn't

think much of the plan for his Cabinet colleagues to accept the pay rise but give it to charity, for all that it's the clever. lawyerly solution. And I can't think why some of his number are so keen on it. It fudges the issue and does nothing to keep the wages bill down. But giving it to charity always seems such a noble thing to do that no one seems to mind how ignoble the motivation.

When I decided, after the birth of my first child, not to claim child benefit

because I could manage without it, everyone but everyone, no matter what their politics were, told me how wrong I was. (In fact I'm thinking of claiming it now, and for my second — but things do change.) But what I was most regularly told - even by my doctor - was that even if I didn't need the money, I should still claim it and give it to charity.

The idea of taking, and making it seem like giving, is surely as financially as it is morally confused. As far as 1 can see there is nothing wrong with taking what is due to one, but nothing saintly about refusing what isn't needed.

Let everyone make his or her mind up as to what to do with the prospective pay rise; morality is not enforced by committee. Not that this ever needed to be cast as a moral issue. Shades of another Major mistake here: perhaps this will be Blair's very own "back to basics".

Older but much wiser

OH HOW I do like a survey that tells me that life is fuller, richer, happier and juicier when we are no longer in our twenties. Those of us who are no longer in our twenties could have told them that

without an NOP study on the subject. Being in one's teens is dreadful, being in one's twenties is a trial. I was relieved when I found out that turning 30 not only wasn't as painful as I had thought it would be, but life actually got better after it. But then, there's no point talking, when it suits us. as if 30 now was what 30 used to be. Of course, it increases

shock value if we profess ourselves amazed that women of 35 are not sporting fleshcoloured popsocks and a soft perm, but the real reason being 30 -- and maybe even 40: that's what they say and I'm happy(ish) to take it on trust — is cool is not because being older's easier, but because we're all younger for longer than we used to be.

Hampered

CAN THE BBC get nothing right? There is something extravagant, inappropriate and hideously naff about sending out Marks & Spencer hampers to people by way of thanking them for working on Diana specials over the time of her death.

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Atomic principle brought to life

Canadian director Atom Egoyan

tells Sheila Johnston how becoming a father brought out his humanity

someone who makes films about alienation, disintegrating families and a startling range of sexual dysfunction, Atom Egoyan seems uncommonly well-adjusted. Confident friendly and articulate, he is married to his longtime collaborator, the actress Arsinee Khanjian, with whom he has a four-year-old son.

But there are indications of a certain perversity: for instance, his first film after the birth of their child is The Sweet Here-

after. Adapted **6** I express Russell Banks's novel, it our worst traces the aftermath of a schoolfears so we bus crash that devastates a rurai are able to Canadian community. Is this not understand a curious choice of project for a new father?

"For parents it is the ultimate nightmare; there is nothing worse,"

he says. "I don't know if I would have embarked on it if I had known we were going to have a child. But now the film is completed and I have to talk about it, I find it far more difficult, especially since we take my son with us everywhere.

"I am not of the belief that, in creating a fiction about something, you prepare the path for it actually happening. In As If, Blake Morrison's book about the James Bulger case, there's a chapter in

possible way that one might lose a child, and I found that very healing, very liberating, in a ghoulish sort of way. What I do. too, is express our worst possible fears so that perhaps we are able to understand them."

Egoyan has been edging away from low-budget, strictly arthouse movies such as Speaking Parts and Family Viewing towards superior production values and complex but (relatively) linear narra-

tives: his previous relationships between the staff and clientele of an erotic dancing club. The Sweet Hereafter. which Grand Prix (secand only to the Golden Palm) at Cannes, is widely

thought to be his

most accessible movie yet. And although it has become a commonplace to describe his films as cerebral, detached, even frosty, one is struck by the way that, when discussing them, he constantly cites events from his own life.

Take his pervasive theme of loss (it turns up yet again in his next project, Felicia's Jour-ney, adapted from William Trevor's Whitbread Prize-winning novel about a pregnant Irish girl seeking the man who left her in the lurch). "Years ago someone I knew disappeared," Egoyan says. "I read



"I don't know if I would have embarked on it if I had known we were going to have a child," Atom Egoyan says of his new film. The Sweet Hereafter

gone missing at a certain time. and I was absolutely sure I had spoken to her on the phone after that point and that she had told me who she was going to meet. I was investigated by the police and put under hypnosis to retrieve that name. I never did, and they never found her. I was only 19, and it left a strong impression."

The biggest loss in Egoyan's own life has been his country. Of Armenian descent but born in Egypt, he moved to Victoria as a toddler and shed his own culture and language to become almost seamlessly Canadian. "This idea of how we construct ourselves is something that shaped my own early childhood," he says. That's why in many of my films the central characters are looking for personality, looking for some way to claim inemselves.

An Armenian journalist told me he saw the whole of The Sweet Hereafter as a very clear metaphor for the Armenian genocide. The more I think of it the more persuasive that is. It might well be the thing that attracted me to this story: this nation where you can't look past your grandparents is something most Armenians just accept, but it is so unresolved at a political and emotional level because the nemetrators have never really admitted that it has happened.

"There's an absurdity about it which defines a lot of what I do. Many people expect me at some point to make a film about the Armenian genocide in a literal way, but I'm suspicious of those kinds of movies, and it would make for

That work has not only been in the cinema: Egoyan has

about frustrated desire, and so it was right up my alley. I set the opera in a modern sanatoless interesting work if I did." rium where there's a lot of

directed extensively for television, including such popular series as Alfred Huchcock Presents and The Twilight Zone, and mounted installations at this year's Venice Biennale and at the Irish Museum of Modern Art. But his present passion is for opera. His first production, last autumn, was Salome, for the Canadian Opera Company. "I guess they thought someone who had directed a film called Exotica would be a natural for Salome. It's all about people watching, and

surveillance. I took away the kitschy sense of the palace that has made it unwatchable in some ways." As one would expect.

Egoyan brought to the production a film-maker's touch: Salome's Dance of the Seven Veils is represented indirectly by a back-projected film revealing her past. "At the turn of the last century people were bombarded with words, and so Oscar Wilde's use of language to choke the characters was a very Victorian expression of hysteria. I tried to show this court overwhelmed with "images instead."

British opera-goers

have a chance to see his work next June, when he will be directing the world premiere of Gavin Bryars's new opera. Dr Ox's Experiment, for English National Opera. He is also writing the libretto for Elsewhereless, with music by the contemporary Canadian composer Rodney Sharman, which will open in Toronto

next spring.

Asked what attracts him to opera, his reply does not come as a surprise: "Restrictions. You have to go with what is there, and you are serving the music. I find that quite liberating. Of course, when it doesn't work it's excruciating, but there is something exciting about that too."

The Sweet Hereafter opens in

Wrong . foot forward

painters

sizzling

in oil

THERE is no stopping Harold King His London City Ballet may have lurched from one crisis to another, but when it finally folded last year no one expected King to retire quietly. Now he's back with another company, City Ballet of London, and its first new production is an original staging of The Sleeping Beauty, a venture King must have hoped would get his enterprise off to a good start.

Unfortunately for King, a false start is more like it. There is so much wrong with this well-intended production that no amount of remedial attention can salvage it.

The production is the handiwork of Michael Rolnick, a choreographer of modest experience whose Sleeping Beauty commission marks the first time he has made a full-length ballet. Faced with the enormous baggage that accompanies any Sleeping Beauty, Rolnick has chosen to

DANCE Ontrant Daisford

eschew all the conventions of Petipa's 19th-century staging. This is a Sleeping Beauty without tutus or pointe shoes, and without the fairytale trappings of Aurora's wedding. Scrapping history and start-

ing again is certainly no bad thing. Mark Morris and Matthew Bourne have enjoyed enormous success taking liberties with Tchaikovsky's two other ballets, Nutcracker and Swan Lake. But they had a clear idea of what they wanted to do, and the talent to see it

through.
Is Rolnick's Sleeping Beauty trying to say something? I'm not sure. There is an obvious attempt to place Aurora's sexual maturation at the heart of the storytelling, but Rolnick is too timorous to really go for the jugular of tradition. Morris and Bourne were also well served by their designers. Rolnick is not.

It is customary in narrative ballet for choreography to reveal character and develop plot. Rolnick's language is so poorly defined, so without purpose, that it does neither. Occasionally he produces a vibrant step or two, but phrasing and punctuation are

Aurora's choreography, and especially the Rose Adagio, whirls by in a cloud of vacuity; there is no sense of her specialness, no emotional resonance in her duets with the Prince, no physical daring. And the poor Prince - his solo in the vision scene is excruciating, awkward, tasteless. The Fairies are cheap and charmless; the mime without intelligent meaning; and there is absolutely no respect for a score filled with one irresist-

ible surge after another. There is little point in sin-gling out individual dancers for special mention. Guest artist Maria Teresa del Real was always a creditable artist with an impressive CV. But even she came away from this performance looking bad, Some of her colleagues, meanwhile, looked as if they had not quite finished their training.

DEBRA CRAINE

the round table

them **9**

MANY in the audience for the final performance of the Barbican's Les Arts Florissants mini-festival must have been anxious that the group's semistaging of King Arthur would not rekindle the magic of its

silverware

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two years ago. Well, it was different, but no less exhilarating. There the success owed much to the enchantment of Graham Vick's stag-ing, but here the music carried the evening, with help production at Covent Garden from a witty new narration by Jeremy Sams. Purcell's "dramatick opera" (1691) is really a play with

music. But whereas the score reveals Purcell's genius better than almost anything else, MUSIC King Arthur

> Dryden's play is not exactly a masterpiece. Replacing it with narrative is thus the most practical way of presenting the work today, especially when the new text feels as stylistically right as Sams's. asides but sends up the plot in

Barbican

the gentlest of ways. Rebecca Saire and Philip Franks, fine actors, delivered the narration engagingly. Ana Yepes's staging flowed well, with the eight singers moving in formation and the occasionally stylised slow motion. No scenery was necessary, and there were no costumes apart from the black and pearl-coloured capes which the singers donned for some choruses. But it was a pity that Yepes, who supplied the mincing choreography for herself and another dancer, also allowed some text to be spoken over the music.

William Christie led his singers and instrumentalists incisively, and with sensitive flexibility: there is surely no other ensemble so brilliant at bringing Purcell to life. The singers made a well-matched team, but Sophie Daneman, Mhairi Lawson, Gaëlle Méchaly, Paul Agnew and Nathan Berg stood out, Daneman especially for her radiant singing of Fairest Isle. (Would it make a better national anthem?)

The final patriotic but unjingoistic masque really is the high point of the piece. And the chorus of farming lads deservedly brought the house down.

JOHN ALLISON

Magical night at | Classic move from rags to riches

t first I did not register Electra at all. My eyes vaguely took in a clump of rags in a tiny alcove or cubby-bole near the top of the big grey wall at the back of the stage. But I was too preoccupied with the rest of Johan Engels's set - a slice of Grecian marble cracked dumped askew among broken Regency-period chairs, like a long-abandoned table at some bombed-out banquet — to

inspect the bundle further. Then it came to life. It clambered down and turned out to be a bent human being wearing an old robe, with rents and tears in its oatmealcoloured wool, and a curiously childlike white mask. Then off came the mask, to reveal a ginger scrub of cropped hair, a flayed-looking face, and the overall aspect of a scavenging

Profession: From nine to

five she is an account plan-

ner with a London advertising agency, but outside office

hours she has set up A-Bit-

Of-Rough Theatre Company

Success to date: Her one-

acter, Undine, about a Ca-

ribbean mail-order bride

who comes to Britain to

marry an abusive husband. was one of the surprise hits of the Edinburgh Fringe.

getting four stars in The

Scotsman, while The Stage

wrote in my spare time."

Alfred Fagon Award.

also ended up playing the lead role.

the production to the tune of £5,000.

to stage her own plays.

Age: 23.

tration camp survivor, or conceivably a refugee from a nuclear explosion. At that point I most emphatically registered Zoe Wanamaker's Electra, and did not stop registering her for the next 100 minutes.

With this hauntingly contemporary yet plausibly mythic figure stumbling and sometimes crawling around the red-brown earth that covers the stage, David Leveaux's programme note about Sarajevo and bereavement seems redundant. In any case, his production also offers us a three-woman chorus whose peasant scarves and widows' black certainly suggest war-zone Bosnia. Add Frank McGuinness's punchy and sometimes colloquial translation - "go easy", "good for

GREAT BRITISH HOPES

Rising stars in the arts firmament

KARA MILLER

declared her to be a "discovery" of the festival. After the

original actress dropped out a week before opening, Miller

Pretty versatile, huh? And a great advertisement for

multicultural Britain. Her family came from Jamaica but she was schooled in Britain and has a law degree from Oxford. "I

What did the critics say? "Unflinching honesty and brutal

beauty" and "pure and powerful" were typical assessments.

She must have understanding employers: Very. They not only gave her the time off for a three-week run but sponsored

So she doesn't plan to give up the day job? Not just yet, but

she probably won't be running advertising accounts much longer. Undine has been bought by the BBC as a Radio 4

Monday Play for broadcast in the new year, and her latest

work, Project Fantasy, has been entered for the Royal Court's

NIGEL WILLIAMSON



you", "so what?", "bosom nais" - and there is no danger of dismissing Sophocles's play

as a dead classic. Leveaux's production is baianced as well as dramatically strong. Margaret Yates actually wins a little sympathy for Electra's mother without in the least sentimentalising her. Her Clytemnestra is imperious, implacable, and fully capable of having murdered her husband Agamemnon. But her outrage when she remembers his sacrifice of their daughter Iphigenia is no pretence. Indeed, she leaves you feeling that bitterness and

pain have had the same effect on her as they have on Electra herself. For all their mutual loathing, they are linked in

If Andrew Howard seems a mite underpowered as Ores-tes, Rudolph Walker exudes magnificent authority as his tutor, and Wanamaker never lets you forget the damage that suffering has wreaked on her heart, mind and body. She does not try to rival Fiona Shaw when it comes to hitting Electra's high Cs. Rather, she suggests that year upon year of misery have corroded that part of her emotional register. Grief and anger have become dogged, desperate habits, and, though she may spit in sudden scorn at the sister who counsels caution, she is always more apt to rasp or snarl than

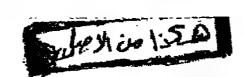
wail or screech.

That isn't to say that Wanamaker fails to rise to her emotional climaxes, or that her performance tacks variety. The scene in which she cradles the urn she believes contains Orestes's ashes is most moving, as is the reconciliation with Orestes proper. And barely has she emitted a growl of alarming intensity as Cly-temnestra is killed, "strike her again!". than she is on the ground, rolling and weeping in what comes across as a weird, rather horrible mix of relief and sorrow at the death of the woman who was her greatest foe: her mother.

Altogether, a revival well worth catching when it moves to the Donmar in the middle of

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE





ver since the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, the whole

notion of the photographer as

witness has seemed irredeem-

ably defiled. So Don McCullin's super-

lative exhibition at the Barbican Art

Gallery comes as an urgently needed

corrective. His journey through late 20th-century hell is an emotion-

wrenching and, sometimes, almost

unbearable experience. But I never felt,

even at the most gruesome stages of his

retrospective, that McCullin was abus-

ing or exploiting the people whose

Although the show starts in the

peacetime of late 1950s London, the

shadow of war is detectable from the

outset. The young McCullin's gang-land friends, posed like apprentice hit-

men in Finsbury Park, scowl from the

gutted innards of a bombed-out house.

The aftermath of the Blitz years still

blights the pummelled metropolis. And

McCullin, whose professional career began when The Observer published

this melancholy yet truculent photo-graph, soon found himself pitched into battlefields far removed from his

His early British pictures are artfully

happening in his picture of a narrow,

Already, in this tense and ominous

image. McCullin's instinctive feeling

for the victims of conflict is movingly

apparent. Two harrowing photo-

graphs of a Turkish woman discover-

ing her murdered husband drive home

the shock and misery of bereavement.

Lying across the foreground, with eyes

open and a strangely serene expres-

sion, the man is discovered by his yelling, disconsolate wife. Several

stunned figures stand in the fierce heat

of a sunlit doorway. like the chorus in a

tragedies he recorded.

North London home.

pull a body off the road.

Painters sizzling in oil

John Russell Taylor on an

illuminating new TV series

anted: one quince, one cabbage, one melon (cut), one cucumber. It sounds like a curious recipe, but these were the ingredients the devisers of Oil on Canvas, a Monday night visual art series on BBC2, needed for the programme about light and shade, Out of the Shadows.

The early 17th-century Spanish painter Juan Sanchez Coton painted, around 1600, a famous still-life featuring just these fruits and vegetables, the quince and the cabbage suspended on string, the melon and the cucumber nicely placed on a ledge below. To show how the effect of the composition, so apparently simple, depended on the exact way the light was permitted to fall on these elements, the things painted were reconstituted in real life so that the light could be changed and readjusted at will.

But the series is more than just another historical survey. in each programme the ideas on how oil paint arrives on canvas are conveyed primarily through watching a contemporary painter at work. In the programme about pictorial lighting the contemporary is John Greenwood, who paints a traditional type of still-life, except that the objects in his paintings are imaginary, and so the light which bathes them also has to be imagined.

All the painters concerned will also be on show from October at the Boundary Gallery, although not always with work closely comparable to what we see them doing in the series. For example, on screen we follow John Virtue, who paints these days huge abstracted landscapes in black and white, as he lays out his sheet of canvas in a field in Devon, splashes and treads shellac all over it in psychological response to the scene before him, then adds side panels to make it even larger. and finally decides to burn all except a small part which continues to please him. The sheer size is something that tew private encompass, but fortunately he works smaller too.

What is fascinating about all the artists who appear in the series — who include Ben Johnson, June Redfern, Len Tabner, Ray Richardson and Tai-Shan Schierenberg - is how articulate they are about what they are doing. The series puts together a lot of special cases to make some general points. But then, as the exhibition demonstrates, any artist worth the name is a special case anyway.

● Oil on Canvas is on BBC2 every Monday until Oct 13. The show is at the Boundary Gallery, 98 Boundary Road, NW8 (0171-624 Don McCullin has taken plenty of intrusive pictures. But, says Richard Cork, his can be justified



In photographs taken in 1964 McCullin exposed the sadism of Congolese soldiers intimidating their captured freedom fighters before killing them

Unflinching view of the world at war

Not that he extends his sympathy to everyone embroiled in the killing fields. On a Congolese trip in the mid-1960s, he found government troops humiliating some pitifully young Lumumbist freedom fighters. Whether forcing them to grovel on the ground, or hitting their necks with rifle-butts, the termentors show no emotion. As for the captives, their resigned faces are scored by a painful awareness that the humiliation will end only when they

composed. But a new, harsh directness invades McCullin's work after he was Was McCullin justified in taking these "intrusive" pictures? We can sent to cover the civil war in Cyprus. Here, quite suddenly, he was confrontnever know how the freedom fighters violence. At first, nothing seems to be final anguish was being observed through the camera's lens. But if McCullin helped to expose the Congocurving street almost blocked by the impersonal bulk of a tank. But then we lese soldiers' sadism by publishing his notice the huddle of men, sheltering photographs, then he was surely near a doorway as one of them tries to iustified.

Nowhere in this crowded, relentless and often overwhelming exhibition is there any attempt to glorify war. McCullin approaches each demanding and dangerous assignment as a fresh opportunity to arraign the degradation of humanity. Covering the Vietnam hostilities for The Sunday Times, he concentrated time and again on the suffering involved. One arresting image, of an Olympian American Marine twisting his athletic body as he hurls a grenade, possesses an heroic dynamism. But McCullin immediately counters its energy with another picture, taken moments later, of the same sinewy soldier slumped and bleeding after a sniper's bullet felled him.

Most of McCullin's finest Vietnam pictures were taken during the battle for the city of Hue. Imagining that they could recapture it from the North Vietnamese regiment after a 24-hour assault, the Americans found themselves ensuared for days in street-bystreet combat. It decimated their forces, and some photographs convey the mortal cost of the fighting without even showing injured faces or limbs. In one elegiac picture, only the boots of the man on a stretcher are visible. But they hunched, intent figures of his fellow Marines who struggle to carry him painstakingly through the rubble.

cCullin himself never became inured to the anguish around him. On the contrary: his feeling for the plight of civilians caught up in the conflicts intensified. After travelling to Biafra in 1967, he forsook battlefields and devoted himself to the appalling predicament of women and children in the refugee camps. Bullets had not wounded many of them, but famine proved more deadly still. The pictures McCullin took there are overwhelming in their capacity to assail the viewer's conscience. A child makes a futile attempt to suck milk from a 24-year-old mother. But her crinkled breasts are empty, and the face above them looks prematurely

In one squalid camp, where McCullin found 900 children on the edge of death, the suffering defies understanding. An albino boy, propped against a wall and leaning on one of his matchstick legs, clutches a tin labelled "France". But his stricken body, so skeletal that it seems ready to snap, is beyond the aid of any imported food. Like so many of the figures in these nightmarish scenes, he appears unable to do anything except contem-plate the inevitability of his own imminent extinction.

How does McCullin maintain his mental composure in the face of such continual, relentless savagery? For a while, at least, he must have been sustained by the realisation that his photographs were extensively reproduced and awakening many to the obscene reality of armed struggle and civilian starvation. Ultimately, though, even his fortitude recoiled from all the relentless wretchedness. War-sickened, he turned instead to the consoling spectacle of India. His subdued yet lyrical studies of elephants relishing their early-morning bathe, and pil-grims assembling for prayer in the mistiness of Sonepur Mela, disclose a new hunger for gentle, meditative

At home in Somerset, he withdrew into the fastness of a garden shed and assembled curiously Victorian still lives. The sumptuous results look more like the work of Roger Fenton in the 1850s than late 20th-century photographs. To my eyes, they exclude far too much of the essential McCullin. As darkly printed as ever, these reclusive images have a convalescent air.

But there are signs, in his most

recent Indian series of lepers begging

on Sugar Island, that his hunger for social involvement is reviving. Anyone who shares my admiration for the courage, compassion and fierce, Govalike indignation of McCullin's previous work will hope that he recovers his former strength without delay. Don McCullin at the Barbican Art Gallery (0171-638 4141) until Dec 14

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Marit Hargie

KING LEAR: Alan Howard in the lead, with Victoria Hamilton as Cordolla and Greg Hicks as Edmund in Pater Hail's new production Old Vio, Waterioo Road, SE1 (0171-928 7616) Opens tompht, 7 30pm.

LONDON PHILMARMONIC DRICHESTRA: The Swedish condu Joseph Swensen teles the poolum to lead the LPO joined by its choir and Youth Orchestra and the London Voices in a concert due to have been voices in a concert clue to have been conducted by the late Sir Georg Solid. The programme remains unchanged and includes works by Mussorgsly, Should see the Solid Solid are Marjana Lipovsek and René Pape. Feetival Hell, South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4242) Tonight, 7.30pm.

POLITICAL AND JULIET Company principals Sylve Guttern and Jonathan Cope open the Royal Ballet season cancing the adolescent lovers in Kenneth MacMillan's evergreen. The is the launch of a three-week visit here which will also include performances of Giselle and The Steeping Beauty and will showcase all the company's principal cancers. Festivel Hall as ned stop. Libert # Apollo, Cucen Curoline Street, Hammersmith, W6 (0171-418 6082). Torright, 7 30pm. (§) SWANSONG: Jonethan Han

connectives ubreither Harvey's connecty monotogue, first seen at Edinburgh. Rebecca Front plays an accentric schoolteacter batting with pupils, politics, and the quarks of irredem adjustion.

Hampsteed Theatre, Swiss Cottage Centre, NW3 (0171-722 9301) Open tonight, 7pm Then Mon-Sat, 8pm, mai Sat, 3pm, Until October 4 ELSEWHERE BRISTOL: Michael Wilterns plays John Aubrey, the manyellous 17th Century gossip, in a revival of Patrick Gerland's version of Brieff Lives. Old Vie, King Street (0117 987 7877) Previews lonight, 7 30pm. Opens tomonow, 7 30pm. Then Mon-Wed, 7 30pm; Thur-Sat, 8pm; mats Thus and Sat, 2,30pm. Until October 4.

CARDIFF: Welsh National Opera's new production oil Mezian's Communication of Mezian's Communication of the season Sir Charles Mackerns conducts an international cast headed by the Australian tenor Glern Wirelade. New Theatre, Park Place (01222) 878889) Tonight and Oct 3, 7 15pm (5)

LEEDS: David Threttall plays the wanderer in Richard Hope's Odysseus Thomp Dropped from its pub football team, our hero visits old haunts in James of recursarized west Yorkshire Playhouse. The Quary, Hill Mourt (0113-244 2111). Opens topinini 7 45mm Then Mon. Opens tonight, 7.45pm. Then Mon Sat, 7.45pm; some mats.

MANCHESTER: Owan Arvel Hughes conducts the Hellik Orchwess in an evening of music from two of America's best-loved composers, Control and Composers, Copland and Gershwin.
Bridgewater Hall, Lower Mosley St (0161-807 9000) Tonight, 8pm &

 ART: Henry Goodman, Roger Allam and Stanley Townsend in this exceptionally interesting drama about friendship, unspoken resentment and a almost of-white painting Wyndhem's, Cherng Cross Road, WC2 (0171-389 1736), Mon-Sat. 8p mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 5pm Until

THE RIBLE: THE COMPLETE
WORD OF GOD (ABRIDGED): Another compression to by the Reducer Shakespeare Company, said to put the Ivo back into lumburrentation. Giolgud, Shaitesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5065) Mort-Sat, Born; mata Wed, Som. Sat. Som

☐ BLUE HEART: Caryl Churchli plays ☐ BLUE HEART Cary Churchii plays micks with reality in this double bill for Out Of John — in Heart's Desse, where a lamily is waiting for a women to return from Australa, and in Blue Netrie as a con man tries to persuade alderly women he is their long fost con magnature, other lumny, and spreading a sense of unease.

a sense of phicaso, Royal Court, (Duke of York's Theatre), St Martin's Lane, W1 (0171-836 5122) Mor-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 3.30pm 🖺 THE COMEDY OF ERRIDRS: Tim Supple's successful touring production for the Royal Shakespeare Company. darker comedy then usual. Young Vio. The Cut, SE1 (0171-826 6363) Morr-Set, 7 30pm; mate Wed and Set, 2:30pm. Until October 11.

NEW RELEASES

THEATRE GUIDE

House full, returns only cens at all prices

☐ HEARTBREAK HOUSE. Strong gest for David Nare's revival includes Emma Fielding, Patrica Hodge, Carmel McSheny, Penelope Willen, Puchard Griffiths, Peter McEnery Almelde, Amesta Street, N1 (0171-359 44(4)) Mon-Set, 7.30pm; mets Set, 3pm. Until October 11

UTHE HERBAL BED: Pever Whelan's lasonaung play Kate Duchère plays Strakespeare's daughter and Michael Ford plays her physician husband Duchese. Catherine Street, WC2 (0171-494-5075) Mon-Sal, 7 30pm, mals Wed and Sal, 2 30pm

☐ LIFE SUPPORT: Alan Bales subily moving in Simon Gray's play about namorise for mantal treachery. Alchaych, The Aldwych, WC2 (0171-416 6003) Mon-Set, 8pm; mats Wed and Set, 2,30pm. SKYLIGHT: Bit Nighy and Stells Const in David Here's with and cogent found in David Here's with and cogent play showing two contemporary social increases a code fundamental common to the common of the fundamental common to the common of the fundamental common of the common of the fundamental common of the common of the common of the fundamental common of the common of the common of the fundamental common of the common of the common of the common of the fundamental common of the common of th

EI GUYS AND DOLLS: The Ofver Walternal (Official), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252) Tonight-Sat, 7 15pm; mais tonight and Set, 2pm. Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre.

CINEMA GUIDE

◆ CAREER GIRLS (15) Student trends most up at adults. Autound to period free up as adults. Aeronalid bas loading Mille Lagh drame. Curzon West End (0171-593 1723) Colomic Canadiss Town (0181-315 4255; Konselington (0181-315 4214) Busss Cottage (0181-315 4220) Pieza (0200) Ribby (0171-737 2121) Screen/Green (0171-226 3520)

DEEP CRIMSON (18): Crisp and mercal Missean drawn about lonelyhaera: mundarens Claphara: Picture House (0171-498 o (D171-437 0757)

GALLIVANT (15) Film-maker Andrew Kolting journeys round Britain with his grandmother and daughter ICA (2) (0171-930 3647) Everymen (2)

(0771-038 1535)

ATY REST PHIEND'S WEDDING

(12) Julia Roberts does her bast to trip

up Darmol Multoney at the alter.
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ABC Tottenhem Court Road (0171636 6148) Barbican (2) (0171-638 8991)

Greenwich (0181-235 3005) Odeones

Camden Town (0181-315 4214) Marble

Arch (0181-315 4216) Swiss Cottage

(0181-315 4220) Rittey (0171-737 2121) Aren (0101-37-321) Sans Collage (0181-315-4220) Ritzy (0171-737-2121) Screen/Baiter Street (0171-935-2772) UCI Whiteleys © (0890 889990) Virgins: Fulham Road (0171-370-2536) Trocaders © (0171-434-0031) Warner Trocadero (0 (0171-434 0031) Warner (0171-437 4343)

PHOTOGRAPHING FAIRES (15)* Grieving photographer (Toby Stephens) believes in fairles. Uneppetising British drama, dracked by Nick Willing

films in London and (where nationed with the symbol + bit release excess the

◆ SPAWN (12): Incoherent cor

Odeona: Camdon Town (0181-315 4255) Kensington (0181-315 4214) Marble Arch (0181-315 4216) Serbe Cottage (0181-315 4220) West En (0181-315 4221) UCI Whiteleys CURRENT

CONSPIRACY THEORY (15): Over-initiated, mood-swinging thriften with Mail Glason and Julia Roberta. (I)CI Whitestrys By (1990 See20) Winglass Polinean Road (8/171-370 2636) Trocadero (0171-434 0031) Wanter West Eind (0171-437 4243) ◆ THE PULL MONTY (15): Unem-

ployed steetworkers strip for cash Souncy British comedy, with Robert Cartyle, Tom Willanson, Mark Addy. Greenwich (0181-235 3005) eons: Kensington (0181-315 4214) rble Arch (0181-315 4216) Swiss tage (0181-315 4220) West End (0181-315 4221) Ritzy (0171-737 2121) UCI Wassieya () (0990 688990)

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Sitting comfortably? Then I'll furnish you with my tale of buried treasure

f all the myriad potential break-throughs towards which, down the long years of selfless columnar duty. I have attempted to direct those in a position actually to do the breaking, none has come garnished with greater expectations than today's. I really do believe that someone of irresistible influence will, at last, listen; and, having listened, act. For the first time in my

life, I shall have broken through.

Thanks to the Royal Mint, The Royal Mint is at the bottom of all this. It doesn't know it is at the bottom of it, mind, the only bottom the Royal Mint is interested in is the one on my sofa; or, rather - since I sense confusion lurking here - the one underneath my sofa, ie, my sofa's own bottom. The Mint wants to get to the bottom of my sofa, because it wants to get to the bottom of a mystery involving what might be lying on the bottom of my sofa: but because the Mint cannot be everywhere at once, it has asked me to get to the bottom of my sofa on its behalf. It wants me to grope inside it for any pennies lying on its bottom. For the Mint has initiated the Every Penny Counts campaign in a bid to recover 2,400 million pennies which have disappeared from circulation, and it esti-mates that some 20 million have infiltrated

the nation's seating.

Now, since I like to help the Royal Mint whenever I can — it has been good to me, parking meters, fag machines, public lavatories, the list is formidable - I have just finished doing what it asked, and emptied the three sofas which have been here, unquarried, since before the dawn of decimalisation; and the result is so astonishing as to have signalled the imminence of a major breakthrough. For not only have I collected over nine quid — excluding the antique value of half-crowns and giant pennies, plus God knows how much in francs, drachmae, pesetas, and several indecipherable coins with holes in - I also have eight keys, six lighters. 31 assorted sweets, including three extinct and possibly highly collectible ones, in their original, if slightly foxed, wrappers, 22 pills, for the loss of which my guests may well have suffered anything, perhaps even on their way home, from ringworm to cardiac arrest, three penknives, two dice, four teaspoons, a human molar on a chain, and several items of so intimate a nature that I shall treat them with a discretion which almost certainly lies outside their normal experience.

Now, how many soias do you suppose

inhabit these islands? There you are, then. Over the years, people have come and gone to and from this sofa and that, leaving stuff behind at every squat, until the population is now sitting on what is nothing less (though daily more) than a vast national trouser exchange. None of us has the remotest idea of what we may have lost or where we may have lost it, we know only that we no longer have things we once had; even worse, many of us, knowing only that much, will have gone back. to a hotel in Rhyl to look under a bed, when we should in fact have been gutting a sofa in Nuneaton. More chaotic yet, if the Every Penny Counts campaign takes off, things will be excavated from the sofa in Nuneaton which will as a result become the property of someone else, who in due course will lose them down a sola in Droitwich. Unless, that is, there is a major breakthrough.

Have you got there yet? Of course you have: there is only one major breakthrough which could sort all this out so that neither the Mint would ever again have to beg us to disembowel our furniture in the national interest, nor would we go mad wondering what became of our bits and bobs, and that breakthrough can be made only by the deft hands of the tailoring profession. Acting on my, quite literally, lateral thinking: because the sole reason why stuff slips out of pockets and makes for the bottoms of sofas is that those pockets are on the sides of trousers. If they were on the fronts of trousers, stuff

would not slip out at all. Yes, it will involve radical cultural change, affecting the way men dress, stand, walk, scratch, all that, and it will not come cheap. It may, of course, be possible to cut costs by converting existing trousers, I cannot say, but I shall make inquiries. If I can get mine done for under nine quid. I shall consider this to have been a good day's work all round.



The dustbin of politics

utumn's political wind is al-ways preceded by a light September breeze it shakes no trees, yet defoliates the British Liberal Democrat Party. Paddy Ashdown stands shorn of his figleaf by the seaside, a sheepish smile on his face. We nod politely. We put money in his hat and hope he is well cared for in the coming year.

The Liberal Democrats are irrelevant.

They have been irrelevant since the apotheosis of Tony Blair, since the modernisation of Labour, since the rise of the welfare state. The Liberals have been irrelevant for so long that they are numb to their irrelevance. They have not won national power since Lloyd George, since the rise oof Labour, since the dawn of universal suffrage. They remain a vagrant spectre of a 19th-century political club. Liberals are a party without ideological or geographical roots, propped up by the media and a vague British love of fair play. We take cream with our scones, Jerusalem with our Proms and Liberals with our politics. hev are nanny's comiv ber they get a hug.

Mr Ashdown has this week done another of his "fearless" SAS routines. He gets frightfully worked up about what government is doing and says he will "not stand for it". This week he was not standing Labour sacrificing the poor, the sick and the stupid to Gordon Brown's Treasury. He. Paddy Ashdown, never signed up to this year's Tory/Labour spending limits. The world was to see the stuff of which Ashdowns are made. He will make them tax and spend, or else . . .

A slight problem is that Mr Ashdown has just held congenial meetings with Labour ministers on constitutional reform, and even mentioned coalition as a "possibility". He says he is pressing Mr Blair privately for an early referendum on electoral reform. Liberalism's Land of Oz. His staff declare that Mr Ashdown's tactical genius along this Yellow Brick Road will soon be public perhaps when he can find a Cowardly Lion and a Tin Woodman.

As for the accusation much heard at Eastbourne that he is "too cosy with Labour", Mr Ashdown is furious. His guru, Lord Holme of Cheltenham. has pointed out that party members cannot have it both ways. They cannot pursue proportional representation, with its built-in bias towards coalition, but run scared as soon as they see coalition in As long as Liberal Democrats care only

about survival, they will remain irrelevant

practice. Besides, most Liberals work rithin coalitions in local government. Yet no sooner has Mr Ashdown shown his muscles to his friends than the dark shape of Mr Blair's Peter Mandelson lowers over him, writing on this page yesterday. How dare Mr Ashdown criticise government spending targets, bellows Mr Mandelson. Does he not know they are sacred? They were drawn up by the vastly experienced Tory Government, whose boots Mr Mandelson seems to think little Ashdown is barely fit to lick. The targets were sanctified by Mr Blair during the campaign and rewarded with "the trust of the electorate". It

beggars belief, Mr Mandelson implies, that a Liberal Democrat rabble could quesby that paragon of firm but fair government, that citadel of intellectual genius, the British Treasury.

Nor was this all. Mr Ashdown had better go carefully, said Mr Mandelson. He had been admitted to, indeed photographed in, Downing Street at a "Special Cabinet Committee". Such invitations do not come cheap. least of all to mere Liberals. What did Mr Blair get in return? He got Mr Ashdown's "invalid criticism ... slipping into oppositionitis ... promising painless profligacy". With the phraseology of a man weighed down by a lifetime in office, Mr Mandelson deplored such upstart presumption. Mr Ashdown was playing "a dangerous game". He had better look to his kneecaps.

Poor Mr Ashdown. He meant well, but politics is so difficult. You have your best election since the war. You have 46 MPs, enough to fill a bus rather than a telephone booth. Your office is alive with fresh faces. Yet the pollsters keep telling you nothing has changed. Millions of fair-weather Tories merely used you as a dustbin last May, as many anti-Thatcherites did in the Eighties. Mr Mandelson rubbed salt in this wound. He jeered that it was only Labour's prudence on public spending that induced many Tories to desert their party,

giving a tactical vote to the Liberal Democrats rather than Labour. In other words, half of Mr Ashdown's MPs owe their seats not to his charms but to the "Mandelson coupon", an approved anti-

Tory tactical vote. This is a harsh claim. though not implausible.

British Liberals have long lived on fantasy. Back in the early 1980s the then leader David Steel urged his supporters to "go out and prepare for government". In those days Liberals courted disaffected Labour voters, as it had courted Tory ones after that party's Orpington night-mare in 1962. The Liberals, it seemed, would court anyone for a handful of

votes. We now have the same spectacle, except that the party is spinning all ways at the placing the Tories as the natural opposition to Labour. Activists in Monday's debate wanted to outdo Ken Livingstone as cham-

pions of those dispossessed by new Labour. The leadership itself will do anything, even forgo a marriage of convenience with Mr Blair, to achieve proportional representation.

This is meaningless politics. There is no search for a creed beyond the vacuities of an Ashdown speech, no grasping at a territorial or functional constituency. There is only the grim quest for survival at Westminster. The dustbin is open to any old rubbish, votes wet, dry, clear glass, brown or green.

Mr Mandelson's article shows how swiftly the Labour Party has slid into the budgetary straitjacket inherited from the Tories. After the May election any student of public finance could have identified hundreds of millions of pounds in the British Budget available for "socialist" redistribution: in the Ministry of Defence (Eurofighter and Trident), in housing benefit, in NHS drugs, in the "training and enterprise" rackets. More hundreds of millions had been squandered in the Tories' last years, subsidising council taxes and business rates and bribing voters. in Wajes, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Such money reallocated could honour

the Left's wildest dreams.

Mr Blair did not "inherit" these priorities. He decided not to change them. He would have a quieter start in Downing Street if he treated the Tory Budget as an extraneous discipline, not self-imposed one. This offered Mr Ashdown a sudden stretch of "red water" between himself and Labour. Before the election he moved into it fast, saying that the Liberal Democrats would demand higher taxes to pay for education. Yet this week he has withdrawn. In a mealy-mouthed phrase, his spokesman Malcolm Bruce says he is not in favour of higher taxes for the sake of it". No, we thought, just for education. But apparently Mr Ashdown has no stomach for such radicalism.

Labour's neo-Tory asceticism offers the Liberal Democrats an opportunity for radicalism as never before. Unless Labour itself splits, which I doubt, who will champion those dispossessed by Mr Brown's future Budgets? With tape clamped over Labour mouths, who will speak for those whose dened are squeezed, whose rents are forced up. whose jobs are vulnerable to "labour market flexibility", who have no unions to defend their living standards? Who will speak for the public sector unions themselves, cursed at every turn by Labour ministers? These groups are poor and carry no clout.

Nor is this the only constituency going begging. Despite the Government's admirable reforms in Scotland and London, there is little sign of Mr Blair freeing local government from the armlock of centralism or from the quango state. The greatest disappointment of Mr Ashdown's leadership has been his inability to look beyond the glamour of Westminster and articulate a rigorous libertarianism. Liberals have never been convincing opponents of big govern-ment, whether for personal liberty or against centralism. Mr Ashdown has funked reform of the drugs laws. Last year he could not even bring himself to

support an elected mayor for London. This 1997 Parliament should be Liberalism's golden opportunity. British politics usually offers too many champions for the available causes. Suddenly there are available causes in search of champions. Yet Liberal Democrats champion nothing except their own survival. So we patronise them, pat them on the head and wish Paddy Ashdown another nice day.

Is Britain in a class of its own?

The secret of our success is inequality,

says Michael Gove

f all John Major's forlorn ambi-tions, from his hope in the summer of 1992 that sterling would shortly replace the mark as the ERM's benchmark currency, to his desire to leave office when everyone least expected it, no failure was as great, and no failure as deserved, as the frustration of his wish for a "genuinely classless

Mr Major, it must be said, did succeed magnificently in using the power of the State to effect a direct redistribution of wealth. It was a transfer of money, however, from the have-nots to the haves. The most significant of his legislative achievements was the National Lottery, and as Stephen Pollard and Andrew Adonis point out in their fascinating and comprehensive new book A Class Act, the lottery is an exquisite device for exploiting the limitations of the poor and subsidising the amusements of the rich. Short of drugpushing, there is no process where the failings of the disadvantaged are used so transparently to subsidise the wealthy.

It might be counted as offensive to social justice that a Prime Minister who came to power as an egalitarian should have ended by extending class divisions. It is, however, divine justice that Mr Major should have failed so spectacularly, A Conservative Prime Minister has no business trying to create a classless society. It is as offensive to Tory principles as claiming you have no "self-ish strategic interest" in keeping your country One Nation. For a Conservative to believe in classlessness is like a panther living on vegetation — so contrary to nature that it will lead to extinction.

The persistence of class as a social fact, intellectual battleground and way of selling books is underlined this week with the simultaneous publication of Adonis and Pollard's work, by Hamish Hamilton, and Lord Bauer's Class on the Brain, by the Centre for Policy Studies. What makes the two studies particularly worth the reader's attention is their quality in a crowded field.

That two works should appear on class in one week is unremarkable. Publishing relies on the class system to survive, and not just because it employs well-born gels at a discount. From Anthony Sampson's Anatomy of Britain to Peter York's The Sloane Ranger Handbook, bestsellers have thrived on class. Take but degree away, untune that string and hark what discord would follow in the book market.

The huge public appetite for reading about how the other half lives only emphasises how ineradicable class disdinchors are, for adodus som politaro angered by "intensifying class divisions", the likely success of their volume will be bitter-sweet. It will sell because Britain wants to be reminded of its divisions and delights in all the nuanced inequalities of modern life. And far from being a masochistic impulse, another vice Anglaise, appreciating class distinctions is the mark of a free society and the guarantee of a better one.

inequality is the inevitable outcome of an open-market economy and, more than that, an engine of economic growth more effective than any Keynesian demand management. As Lord Bauer points out in his brilliant polemic: Differences and distinctions do not restrict talent or inhibit economic progress. In fact, they rather promote ambition and achievement because they offer inducement, something to go for, at all levels of society."

t takes an outsider like Lord Bauer. the son of a Hungarian bookie, to recognise what generations of progressives like Will Hutton, Adonis and Pollard fail to do - the class system made Britain great. The public schools, far from holding the nation back, have been a priceless asset. It is the desire to send his son to Eton, for prestige as much as qualifications, that drives the man in the Midlands to build a better mousetrap.

In their work, Adonis and Pollard succeed magnificently on every page in showing that Britain is an unequal society but never once prove why it should be anything else. Indeed, they are honest enough to record the evidence which suggests that progressive efforts by the State to intervene in social organisation are as counter-productive

as they are in economic production. in their chapter on education, the authors record how egalitarian experiments such as comprehensive schooling and progressive teaching, which dismantled old hierarchies, replaced them with new and harsher inequalities. They quote approvingly the words of the ethical socialist A.H. Halsey: "The essential fact of 20th-century educational history is that egalitarian policies

have failed." They have certainly failed in Halsey's terms but there is, of course, nothing wrong per se in ever-greater inequality. The real test of equity, in law and in society, is the process not the outcome. A fair society is one where barriers to progress, not divisions between individuals, are as small as possible. To object to growing disparities in income is, ultimately, immoral, a genuflection to envy. Envy is a prejudice, as ugly as any, which seeks to punish another when no injury has been sustained. Snobbery, which drives man to excel and encourages the cultivation of taste, is, by contrast, a deeply moral impulse. It is a pity. for his sake, that the boy from Brixton did not recognise that earlier. If he had mounted a more spirited Tory defence of class as the goad to achievement, he might have stood a fighting chance against the Old Fettesian.

Lordly rebel

his colleagues accept his "hair shirt" pay rise yesterday, one Cabinet minister was preparing to defy the Chancellor.

Lord Irvine of Lairg, already the highest-earning Cabinet minister, is keen to keep his full pay rise. As Lord Chancellor, he receives £140,665 a year - nearly £40,000 a year more than Tony Blair.

But then Lord Irvine is in a uniquely strong position within the Cabinet. As head of chambers, he introduced the young Tony to Cherie, his future wife. Blair is unlikely to sack his mentor.

Like the rest of the Cabinet, Lord Irvine's pay is recommended by the Senior Salaries Review Body. But while his colleagues prepare to forgo their rises, the Lord Chancellor is arguing that his remuneration should be dealt with differently.

"Some 14 per cent of his salary is paid by the House of Lords - he is the Speaker - and 86 per cent comes from a consolidated fund." waffles an Irvine flunky before conceding, "but, part of the salary does reflect his Cabinet position."

Irvine is an enigmatic character. Famed for slamming "fat cat" lawyers, he is not one to slum it.

known by friends as a bon viveur. chose to renovate his official Westminster residence - at a cost to the taxpayer of up to £2million. And at work, as regular readers will know, he orders a civil servant to peel him oranges. Nice work . . .

■ KEN CLARKE's shrewd move to pour scorn on the single currency is paying off. William Hague's



"Well, I've looked every-

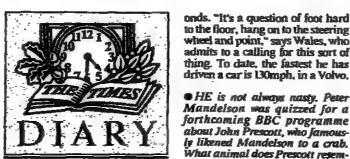
where, but it's not here"

"back me or sack me" ultimatum has prompted IG Index to drop the odds on Clarke becoming Tory leader from 50-1 to 16-1. "Hague's only legacy," predicts their odds-setter, Patrick Jay. "will be as the man who wore a baseball cap to the Notting Hill Carnival.

Bottoming out ONE of Wee William Hague's most loyal supporters is snubbing his "bonding-session" in Eastbourne next month. Peter Bottomley, MP for Worthing West, has turned down Willie's invitation to spend two days with colleagues in a five-star hotel; instead he will holiday in Spain with

his daughter. I was a first-night supporter of William," protests the MP. "But I promised my daughter I'd take her to Spain for half-term because she's doing GCSE Spanish. We're going quietly - I don't want this all over the papers." Quite.

 WHO says the dear old Liberals have changed? The Grand Hotel in Eastbourne (£270 a night, with former guests including the Queen of Spain and Chartie Chaplin) has had to waive its strict dress code for the conference. Liberal MPs have dined in jeans, trainers and even shorts. While Mr Ashdown wears a suit.



some seem happier in denim, harumphs my man with the trou-ser press. "Luckily, they've taken over the hotel, so there are no other guests to offend."

Hot wire

WHILE THE British team behind the jet-powered Thrust SSC recorded the fastest land-speed journey in history, the grandson of Sir Malcolm Campbell, who established an earlier record in Bluebird in 1929, is preparing to break the international land-speed record - er, for electric vehicles.

Donald Wales will unveil his conveyance at Brooklands today, and hopes to reach 230mph in Bluebird Electric, smashing the current record of 183.075mph. Designed by the inventor of the

Popemobile, the car has no gears

and can reach top speed in 90 sec-

هكذا من الاجلي

He-mail

STEPHEN FRY used the Internet to re-establish a close relationship with his parents. And he e-mailed instalments of his frank childhood memoir — including Wildean appreciations of male beauty and accounts of adolescent thievery — to their Norfolk home, to check they would not raise a blush.

onds. "It's a question of foot hard

to the floor, hang on to the steering

wheel and point," says Wales, who admits to a calling for this sort of

thing. To date, the fastest he has

driven a car is 130mph, in a Volvo.

● HE is not always nasty. Peter

about John Prescott, who famous

ly likened Mandelson to a crab.

What animal does Prescott resem-

ble? "A cross between a lion and a

beast," Mandelson replied, before

concluding a little less glowingly:
"He is a big beast."

"We were not at all concerned," says his affable father, Alan. "Stephen and I are always using the Internet to chat."

The family was toasting a new book by our medical maestro. Dr Thomas Stuttaford, on the (largely beneficial) effects of drinking. Dr Tom was the Fry family doctor. and has clear memories of the





young Stephen. "He was always such a clever little chap, witty even then," he says. "I would write notes to his housemaster saying so when he got into his scrapes.

Stone me

A PAPAL performance has rarely been so eagerly awaited. Bob Dylan, who will sing for the Pontiff in Bologna this Saturday at the World Eucharist Congress, has been asked to present his planned lyrics to the Vatican. It seems that the two performers, both of whom knocked on heaven's door recently, wish to harmonise their act, with the Pope weaving his speech around Dylan's words. Mr Dylan, I trust, will not perform a rendition of his important work Everybody Must Get Stoned

THE CREAT

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THE UNREFORMED UN

The United Nations needs a tougher approach from Britain

Robin Cook's speech to the United Nations General Assembly yesterday was described by the Foreign Office as "a powerful call for UN reform". This was the Foreign Secretary's bid not only to make his personal mark before a global audience, but to put Britain's considerable influence at the UN behind a more dynamic and imaginative rethinking of priorities and methods than Kofi Annan, the new UN Secretary-General, has so far felt confident enough to put forward. Specifics were called for.

Mr Cook praised Mr Annan's "outstanding leadership"; he would better have complemented it by showing more of his own. A British Foreign Secretary operates under fewer constraints than the UN's chief executive officer. Mr Annan needs forceful allies willing to put the case for radicalism more clearly than he can himself.

The Labour Government has, admittedly, put itself in a difficult position to argue that the UN urgently needs to shed excess baggage if it is to concentrate on areas where demand is high and the need for its involvement indisputable. Its decision to ejoin Unesco and cancel the British decision to withdraw from Unido, the UN Industrial Development Organisation, betrays a preference for the politically correct over the politically effective. The modest admiristrative reforms currently on offer are not sufficient to give the UN "the flexibility and efficiency it requires" to respond to 21stcentury challenges.

A more radical presentation would also have won Mr Cook a more respectful hearing in the US Congress than he has achieved by a televised assault on America's non-payment of the arrears it owes to the UN. The public recall by a senior Foreign Office official of May's bruisingly unproductive confrontation between Mr Cook and Jesse Helms, the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, was still more

unfortunate. However true it may be that Mr Helms detests the UN and all its works, Madeleine Albright, the US Secretary of State, has worked tirelessly with the Senate to reach a compromise under which these arrears will at last start to be repaid next year. There is much to be lost by demonising the veteran senator over an issue which has wide bipartisan support; the Senate passed the relevant Bill, which is currently stuck in negotiations with the House, by 90 votes to

The problem with the Bill is that it sets conditions, particularly on cutting America's future share of UN dues to 20 per cent, to which Britain and the rest of the UN object. But it is in Britain's interest to try to separate this dispute as much as possible from the business of UN reforms which are needed regardless of its financial predicament. The last Government positioned Britain to act as broker on this issue, by initiating a needed overhaul of a system of calculating UN dues so out of touch with economic reality that it seriously overcharges Russia and Ukraine while letting China and some prosperous Latin American and Asian countries off too lightly. Although the US assessment accurately reflects its share of world GDP, it may not be healthy for a global organisation to depend too heavily on a single country.

The best way to counter the prejudices of an exceptionally uninformed Congress is to convince its members, who have been withholding dues for 12 years in an attempt to force change at the UN, that this time, UN reform will amount to more than shifting the furniture. Britain has a reputation to live up to as a serious and knowledgeable operator in this floundering set of institutions. Unless the UN modernises, Mr Cook rightly said yesterday, it "will lose its legitimacy and its effectiveness". It is on this broader objective that the Foreign Secretary should concentrate his formidable energies.

THE GENE THEME

Man is born free, but everywhere is in genes

Each morning brings news of a new genetic discovery bearing on how long we will live, and how we may die. Aided by the proponents of the almighty gene, the impression is gaining ground that mankind is merely the pretty wrapping around a bunch of genes with minds of their own. Faulty genes have acquired the character of Blind Pugh's Black Spot: not only do they foretell a death, but they do so with a terrible inevitability.

This is, of course, an exaggeration, but it is widely believed. Just as hormones were once seen as the ultimate key to human behaviour, today the gene is king. Fortified by that belief, genetic testing is beginning to advance into the clinic. For diseases caused by changing a single letter in the genetic sode, the tests are simple and powerful, and Thin be of great value to couples intending to have children and wanting to be reassured that they will not suffer from hereditary disease. For more complex conditions such as cancer and heart disease, where many genes may be involved, their usefulness has yet to be unambiguously demonstrated. They are valuable for what they tell clinicians about the causes of the disease, and they may suggest new approaches to the designers of drugs. But their value to the individual is much more equivocal.

The Advisory Committee on Genetic Testing has now produced a code of practice for. private companies intending to offer such ests direct to the public. So far, the market is tiny and no abuses have emerged, making this a rare case in which the stable door has been politely closed before the horse has had a chance to bolt. Everything the committee says makes admirable sense, and it has resisted the temptation to call for statutory regulation of gene testing. It is probably right to believe that the market has sufficient checks and balances of its own to ensure that cowboys are quickly shown the door. Not only will patient interest groups and legitimate testing companies wish to preserve high standards and point the finger at miscreants, but the NHS, through its own regional genetic centres, will also be a customer for the tests and a guarantor of quality.

More difficult issues, however, lie ahead. The committee's report may well be effective in heading off abuses, but testing even when properly conducted raises tricky ethical questions. The test result may have implications that go beyond the individual tested, involving the whole family; yet to protect individual confidentiality it may be denied to some of those it could help. In a healthy individual, a bad test result can cause anxieties that cannot be alleviated because no treatment or prophylaxis is available. There may be a danger of creating an army of the unwell, people whose perception of their own health has been altered for ever by a single test. Better blissful ignorance than a half-knowledge that leaves people feeling permanently diminished.

Beyond that again there are social questions that demand answers. How are the results of tests to be handled if revealing them will make it impossible to obtain health or life insurance, while concealing them will tilt the balance unfairly against the insurance companies? Navigating a way through that dilemma is the next task the committee must face, one much harder than the regulation of testing quality which is addressed in today's report. An excellent start, then - but bigger challenges await.

DOVES AND HAWKS

The Middle East peace process can restart with the birds

The dove of peace may come to the Middle East in the form of a hawk. For at a time when political tensions between Israelis and Palestinians are at their worst since the signing of the Oslo peace accords, a small but significant attempt to overcome mistrust and hatred is being made by ornithologists. Palestinian and Israeli birdwatchers have been brought together by the plight of the lesser kestrel, a migratory hawk that nests in the Holy Land but is now so endangered than no more than 400 arrive each year. Three months ago environmentalists on both sides decided that only by working together to protect nest sites and exchange information could they ensure its survival.

The Palestinian-Israeli Environmental Secretariat is a heartening attempt to translate into good neighbourliness the promises of the peacemakers. For not only are the members of this unusual nongovernmental organisation trying to save the kestrel; they are hoping to bring together birdwatchers, young and old, to share their enthusiasm, and in so doing, break down barriers of suspicion and mis-trust. The secretariat, with Palestinian and Israeli codirectors, has already organised one expedition with 20 Israeli and 20 Palestinian children; it plans another next spring. Meanwhile, it is bringing together teachers. journalists and students for the kind of "people-to-people" involvement essential to any understanding that both peoples share

the same lands and same environment. They could hardly have chosen a better

Control of the second

focus for their efforts. For too long the delicate plants and colourful creatures of the Middle East have been sacrificed to rapid economic growth, fallen victim to wars and their long-term scars or been destroyed by neglect, indifference and wanton gunfire. Yet the Levant is one of the most important bridges from Africa to Asia for millions and millions of soaring birds that make the long journey each year. They seek rest, water and shelter in the warm valleys; many nest there; and hundreds of species have traditionally established colonies around watering places on the edge of the desert.

Israel has no tradition of hunting; the secretariat estimates that fewer than 5,000 people, most of them Druze, shoot birds. Palestinians have been forced to stop the practice by the restriction of guns enforced under the occupation. Jordan has long had tough restrictions on hunting, and royal patronage for animal protection societies. Further north, however, the picture is bleak. Lebanon has some 500,000 bird hunters, and the annual migration turns into a ruthless slaughter. Small birds are shot for fun or as delicacies to eat, and nominal restrictions were cavalierly flouted during the civil war. The story is the same in Syria. and Turkey, or further west in Italy and Malta. The new Palestinian-Israeli secretariat wants to spread a message of protection and shelter beyond the borders of biblical Palestine. In the process it is spreading a far more important message of peace and reconciliation within those borders.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

in Tory choice

From Sir Julian Critchley

Sir, One man, one vote for the leadership of the Tory party is surely too high a price to pay for Mr William Hague (report, September 23; letters, 20 and 22). The franchise should be extended beyond the now narrow con-fines, imposed by the 1922 Committee. of 165 Tory MPs.

ideally, it should include MEPs, ex-Tory MPs in the Lords, the officers of the National Executive Committee, and constituency chairmen. These are, of course, the very people who, in two unofficial ballots last June, voted

for Kenneth Clarke. One man, one vote has a spurious attraction. Was it not Chesterton who said that the difference between aristocracy and democracy is that rule by the ill-educated is to be preferred to rule by the uneducated? A vote for the leader of the party in return for a paltry annual subscription is surely a nonsense. Archie Hamilton, the newly elected chairman of the 1922 Commi tee, who refused in June to alter the franchise, has much to answer for.

JULIAN CRITCHLEY (Conservative MP, 1959-64 and 1970-971 19 Broad Street, Ludlow, Shropshire. September 23.

From Councillor Barry Phelps

Sir, Labour constituency parties have always been ruled from the centre. The Conservative associations, while sometimes in the gift of local bigwigs. have never been ruled from outside and it wouldn't suit us.

Margaret Thatcher all but destroyed the Conservative Party's grass roots in the constituencies when she emasculated local government. It is William Hague's job to revive those roots, not complete their destruction by adopting the centralisation that suits Labour so well. Then the Conservative Party can regroup, rethink and reorganise for its return to power the only thing at which we are undeni-

ably pre-eminent.

Taking from the constituencies their right to choose their candidates would deny them their last real power.

Yours faithfully, BARRY PHELPS (Councilior, Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea). 25 Kenway Road, Earl's Court, SW5. ad356@dial.pipex.com September 23

From Councillor Murray Naylor Sir, Exasperation is the only word

which I can use to describe the latest outburst of sniping and disloyalty currently besetting the Conservative Party. I write as a constituency chairman

and as a county councillor who actually won a seat on May I, to warn those apparently so myopic that they cannot see the very real danger to the party. Unless we give reform and restructuring a chance, there could be no

party to fight any elections in the foreseeable future. Can those who guide our destinies not see that the grass roots of the party are fed up with discord, dissension and disloyalty? Have they learnt nothing from the last general election?

For goodness sake let's give William Hague and his proposals a fair chance, consider them coolly and rationally and, having done so, make our decisions and unite to rebuild the Conservative Party as the great institution that it once was.

Yours sincerely MURRAY NAYLOR Ryedale Conservative Association, 109 Town Street, Old Malton, North Yorkshire. September 23.

From Mr Beverley Morgan

Sir, Your front-page headline today states "Hague plans bigger say for rank-and-file". Is it not somewhat ironic that, had

Mr Hague's wishes been set in train at the time of the last leadership election, Kenneth Clarke rather than he would now be the Leader of the Opposition.

Yours sincerely, BEVERLEY MORGAN. 9 Winterstoke Gardens. Mill Hill, NW7. September 23.

Court costs

From Mr Charles Evans

Sir, The Parliamentary Secretary at the Lord Chancellor's Department is right to reconsider a plan to scrap a defendant's automatic right to jury trial (report, September 11). A consid erable saving in cost will be achieved if the practice of lay magistrates hearing cases is curtailed instead.

Full-time stipendiary magistrates deal with the court business with greater speed and certainty than their agues. The saving in time is reflected in reduced legal aid bills and the greater certainty in a reduction in expensive appeals to the higher

As 98 per cent of criminal cases are disposed of in the magistrates' courts, is that not where savings should be sought? The public purse would benefit, but not at the expense of justice.

CHARLES EVANS, Goldsmith Chambers. Temple, EC4.

Rank-and-file role Appeal on council 'gerrymandering'

From Mr Peter Bradley, MP for The Wrekin (Labour), and others

Sir. It is a shame that Lord Rees-Mogg ("A system in the dock", Sep-tember 18) apparently has not trou-bled to scan the 12,000 pages of docu-mentary evidence against Shirley Porter and others gathered in the course of the auditor's seven-year investigation into the "gerrymandering" of Westminster City Council.

If he had, as we have, his tortuous defence of Dame Shirley would not rely quite so heavily on anecdotal encounters with her over arts funding and canapés.

Moreover, Lord Rees-Mogg's claim that the Westminster surcharge ap-peal is prejudiced before it comes to court next month is simply nonsense. The case will be decided not by a

In what possible way can their judg-ment be prejudiced by media publicity or any of the other matters to which he-For our part, we trust that the court will consider the merits of the case in

ury but by three High Court judges.

full, and that Shirley Porter will therefore have yet another chance to refute the mountain of evidence against her. But this is only the latest in a long

series of so far spurned opportunities, including the 13 interviews she attended with her legal representatives and the public hearing at which she declined to give evidence. In the High Court she can take the opportunity to answer the charges against her in public and face examination on her version of events.

It is typical of a sustained black propaganda campaign that even before the case has opened Shirley Porter's apologists should be seeking to cast doubt on the validity of the outcome. But we are surprised and disappointed to find so distinguished a journalist among them.

No. Lord Rees-Mogg: Shirley Porter finds herself in court not because of who she is but because of what the auditor found that she did. As former Westminster councillors,

all we ask is that at last justice be done, and well and truly be seen to be

Yours faithfully, PETER BRADLEY, KAREN BUCK, ANDREW DISMORE, House of Commons. September 19.

From Mr John Ware

Sir, In defending Dame Shirley Porter, William Rees-Mogg says the cen-tral question at her forthcoming High Court appeal against the district audi-tor's £31.6 million surcharge for "gerrymandering" will be whether she has had "a fair trial".

The auditor may have acted as pro-secutor and judge as Rees-Mogg suggests, but he can hardly be blamed for following the procedure laid down by the last Government.

Rees-Mogg ignored the central question: the sheer volume of documentary evidence - some in Dame Shirley's own hand - that, according to the auditor, showed how she tried to fix the 1990 election by concentrating resources from Westminster City Council's housing, planning and environment departments on the

eight most marginal wards. One document mentioned in the auditor's report said there was an immediate need to socially engineer the population in marginal wards"; another spoke of an "economic justification for G-Mander on housing". Dame Shirley herself urged her colleagues to "swallow (the documents) in true spy fashion".

Rees-Mogg is wrong to say that my BBC Panorama exposé which led to the auditor's investigation "relied on local objectors who were Lady Porter's political opponents". We carried no such interviews. We did carry an interview with a Conservative Party whistleblower".

Since then Dame Shirley has failed to explain the contents of her own documents. Next month she will have that opportunity before three High Court judges. Her credibility remains the central question.

Yours sincerely, JOHN WARE (Reporter). Panorama, British Broadcasting Corporation, Room 1118, 201 Wood Lane, W12. September 18.

From Mr M. O'Malley

Sir, I do not recall William Rees-Mogg expressing concern for Mr Derek Hatton or his colleagues on Liverpool Council in 1993.

Yours faithfully, M. O'MALLEY, I Ash Grove, Little Sutton, South Wirral. a1356756@infotrade.co.uk September 18.

A-level lit crit

From Mr Adam A. C. Barn

Sir, Mrs Sharon Footerman's statement (letter, September 12; see also letter, September 17) that A-level literature candidates "are required to take copies of their set texts into the examination" is an unfair generalisation: under the Oxford and Cambridge board, at least, only one of the four components ("Close textual analysis") is an "open-text" examination. The purpose of such a paper is to allow candidates to demonstrate a detailed understanding of the text without the cumbersome inhibition of needing to memorise quotations: a literature exam is a test not of memory but of analytical skills. Further, candidates are forbidden

from annotating blank pages. The syllabus makes clear that only light annotations in the margin of the text itself are permitted and it is the duty of the examiner to ensure that candidates have not written in "complete model answers". The questions asked in an open-text examination take into account the presence of an annotated text and deliberately aim to make candidates do some "real thinking" by asking them to approach the text in a way they are unlikely to have anticipated or rehearsed.

In my experience, having sat the exam in June, these open-text papers often prove, if anything, more challenging than "closed-text" ones.

Yours faithfully. A. A. C. BARNARD. 3 The Terrace, Barnes, SW13.

Viscount Tonypandy

From Dr. W. Dewi Rees

Sir, Viscount Tonypandy's life was varied and fulfilled (obituary, September 23) but it was at Aberfan, in 1966, that he experienced the depths of human despair and was most fortified by his Christian faith.

had the shattering experience of being the Government's representative durhundred children died. He said last year, in the foreword he kindly wrote for a book of mine.

DEWI REES. Stremm-on-Dunsmore. Warwickshire. September 23.

may be sent to a fax number 0171-782 5046.

From Miss Elisabeth Williamson

Sir, As an A-level student preparing to sit the English literature examination next June, I was intrigued to learn that I will not be expected to do any "real thinking" during the exam, and by the suggestion that I will be able to write "complete model answers" in my set textbooks before entering the examination hall.

I would respectfully point out that, while the number of possible questions that can be asked on the texts is virtually limitless, the number of blank pages in the front and back of the set textbooks is not.

Until someone introduces me to the art of fitting large numbers of "complete" answers into six blank pages, I plan to resign myself to really thinking during the exam.

Yours faithfully. ELISABETH WILLIAMSON. 180 Mountsandel Road, Coleraine, Co Londonderry.

From Mr Michael Berry

Sir. It is not true that "all" A-level English literature candidates are "required" to take their texts into examinations.

Ours don't. In 1997 most of them got A or B grades.

Yours faithfully. MICHAEL BERRY (Head of English), St Bede's College Alexandra Park, Manchester. September 12.

As Minister in the Welsh Office he

ing this cruel tragedy when a coal waste tip slid down the mountainside and engulfed a school where over a

I shall never longer stepping over the bodies of little boys and girls as rescuers dragged them from the sludge. I visited every home that suffered sudden bereavement, and the concentrated agony of weeping families has left a sear on me for the rest of my life.

Yours sincerely, Piott Cottage, Plott Lane,

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

Lib Dems and pensions From Mr Michael Fogarty

Sir, Baroness Maddock moves this

week at Eastbourne a resolution calling on voters to support "excellent Liberal Democrat policies" on pensions, such as - the first item on the list retain the basic state pension increased in line with prices".

The purpose of a pension is, of course, to replace earned income. When I was coming up to pension age the state pension replaced about a quarter of an average earner's pay. Year by year that replacement rate

has fallen, and by the time my children, now in their fifties, reach my age it will be all of seven pence in the pound. This policy, of course, is what John Major also promised and what Tony Blair fought Barbara Castle to Some Liberality, some excellence:

can't pay, won't pay. In the days when we were the ones who had to pay, we of the much poorer war and postwar generation thought differently. Yours sincerely, MICHAEL POGARTY

(Member, Liberal (Democrat) panel on tax and social security, 1974-91). Red Copse. Funcombe Road, Boars Hill, Oxford. 100662.2]11@compuserve.com September 22

Of London walks and palace walls

From Mr Todd Longstaffe-Gowan

Sir. Whilst there is much to applaud in Mr Terry Farrell's scheme for the "Diana-isation" of London ("The royal route to the people's promenade", September 13), I take grave exception to his proposal to pull down the vener-able brick walls which surround the gardens of Buckingham Palace and St James's Palace.

These great early 19th-century walls are among the last survivors of the high protective barriers which once screened London's aristocratic townhouses from the dirt and noise of the

The gardens of Burlington House, Devonshire House and Lansdowne House were all enclosed in this way, and at Harcourt House in Cavendish Square - once described as "rather like a convent than a residence of a man of quality" - 80ft high screens of iron and ground glass screened the

garden from the outer world. Like the mansions they once protected, almost all have been swept away. By all means make the gardens of the royal palaces more accessible to the public, but in doing so respect the historic features which have ensured their survival up to the present day.

Yours sincerely, TODD LONGSTAFFE-GOWAN (Editor, Journal of the London Historic Parks and Gardens Trust), 4a Dalmeny Mansions, 77 Anson Road, N7. September 14.

From Mrs Marcus Agius

Sir, Mr Edward Leigh, MP (letter, September 17), and some other politicians appear to forget that London is a living city where traffic needs to flow as freely as possible.

The horrendous jams of the last few days, when The Mall and roads into Hyde Park have been closed to cars, cannot and should not be a permanent part of London life. Having the great capital at a stand-

still is not a fitting part of any tribute to Princess Diana. Yours sincerely, KATE AGIUS, 7 South Terrace, SW7.

The Booker booked

From Mr'Ian Brammer

September 17.

Sir. The title of a Booker prize novel (Mr John O'Byrne's letter, September 19) will depend more on timing than on plot.

Before the competition Great Expectations or Vanity Fair would be appropriate. After the judging the unsuccessful authors could choose between The Grapes of Wrath, Hard Times, Decline and Fall and The Long Goodbye. The winner would select Victory or Brave New World.

Yours faithfully. IAN BRAMMER Cesterbridge House, Rainow, Macclesfield, Cheshire. September 19.

From Mr Tim Nagley

Sir, in his search for a title, Mr O'Byrne should perhaps avoid The Booker Book, which was used by Simon Brett in 1989 as the title for his most entertaining novel about an enterprising first-time novelist attempting to win the prize.

Yours faithfully. TIM NAGLEY. 29 Hillfield Road, NW6. timn@globalnet.co.uk September 19.

Pennies for heaven?

From Mrs Ingram Lloyd

Sir. I was somewhat mortified to discover (report, "Royal Mint offers a thought for your pennies". September 17) that our church may be unwittingly adding to the national shortage of

Our collection of "mites and groats" in small containers has been ongoing for several years. The monthly count of pennies is tedious, but I will endeavour to speed up the recycling of our pence back into the national coffers.

With apologies, INGRAM LLOYD (Sulgrave Church mites and groats co-ordinator). Church Cottage, Sulgrave, Banbury, Oxfordshire. September 17.

Taste on tap

From Lieutenant-Commander

J. H. McGivering, RNR (retd) Sir, Mr Garry Garrard (letter, September 23) can improve the quality of his tapwater by adopting very simple procedures that can be carried out at home to produce excellent drinks which I have enjoyed, at the appropri-

ate times, for many years. 1. Add boiling water to tea, pour into a cup containing a little milk; add sugar if desired.

2. Pour cold water into a tumbler containing a few drops of Angostura and three or four tablespoons of gin.

Your obedient servant. J. H. McGIVERING. 32 Cheltenham Place. Brighton, East Sussex. September 23.

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COURT CIRCULAR

BALMORAL CASTLE September 23: Lady Dugdale has succeeded the Hon Mary Morrison as Lady in Waiting to The

BUCKINGHAM PALACE September 23: The Duke of York, Patron, Round Square, this morn-ing visited Westfield School. Gosforth. Newcastle upon Tyne, and was received by Colonel Hugh

Brown (Vice Lord-Lieutenant of Tyne and Wear). THATCHED HOUSE LODGE September 23: Princess Alexandra, President of the British School at Rome, this afternoon received Professor Fergus Millar upon relinquishing his appointment as Chairman of the Council and Professor Geoffrey Rickman upon assuming the appointment.

Today's royal engagements

Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester will visit Abbotsford. Melrose, Roxburghshire, at 2.45 The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester will visit Amble, Northumberland, at 10.45; will visit the marina at Braid, at 11.40; will visit Holy Island Castle, at 1.45; and will visit Bamburgh Castle at 3.50; and the Grace Darling Museum, Bamburgh, at 4.30.

The Duke of Kent, as President, the RNLI, will attend a lifeboat naming ceremony, Hull Marina, Humber Dock Street, Kingston upon-Hull, at 1.20. Later, he will attend a performance of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony by the London Philharmonic Choir at the Festival Hall at 7.00. Princess Alexandra, as Patron of the 50th anniversary year, will also attend. Princess Alexandra will visit the WRVS Day Centre. Stewart House, Looms Lane, Bury St Edmunds, at 1.05; will visit St Edmunds Hospital, St Mary's Square, at 1.45; and as President, will visit the Imperial Cancer Research Fund Shop. 26 Abbeygate Street, at 3.00.

Earl Cadogan

A memorial service for Earl Cadogan, MC, DL, will be held at noon on Tuesday, October 7, 1997, at St Luke's Church, Chelsea, SW3. organisations.

Big Bang Ball

The Lord Mayor of London will draw the raffle for The Cancer Research Campaign at the elev-enth Big Bang Ball which will be held for 3,000 guests in The Cafe Royal on Friday, October 24. £39 rickets and invitations from 0171-F31 18149.

Luncheon

Arta Council The Earl of Gowrle, Chairman of the Arts Council of England, was the host at a luncheon held yesterday at 14 Great Peter Street. yesterday at 14 Great Feer Steel.
Among those present were:
Mr. Gerald. Kaufman, MP. Mr.
Richard. Holmes, Mr. Gavin.
Henderson, Mr. Ian. Rickson. Mr.
Brian Aitwood, Mr. Nik Powell, Ms.
Jane. Ferguson, Mr. Alain. de
Botton, Councillor Jeremy Fraser.
Mr. Bush Hartshorn and Professor
Richard Steinitz.

Reception American Chumber of Commerce (UK)

Mr Charles A. Ford, Minister for Commercial Affairs at the American Embassy, was the host at a reception held yesterday at the Embassy for the American Chamber of Commerce (UK) and London First Centre to mark the

Today's birthdays

Miss Svetlana Beriozova, balle-rina, 65; Sir Mervyn Brown, diplomat, 74; Professor T.E. Burlin, former Rector and Emer-itus Professor, Westminster University, 66; Mr Frank J. Davies, chairman, Health and Safety Commission, 66; Sir Seymou Egerton, former chairman, Coutts and Company, 82; Mr Brian Glanville, author and journalist, 66: Vice-Admiral Sir Alan Grose, 60: Professor Richard Hoggart, former Warden, Goldsmiths College. 79; Mrs Catherine Hughes,

former Principal, Somerville College, Oxford, 64; Mr Robert Jackson, MP, 51; Sir David Lane, former MP. 75; Professor G.P. McNicol, former Vice-Chancellor, Aberdeen University, 68; Professor Bernard Nevill, designer, 63; Mr Anthony Newley, actor and singer, 66; Mr John Rutter, composer and conductor, 52; Mr J.D.M. Smith, former chairman, APV. St. Mr L. Urquhart, former chairman, Burmah Castrol. 62: Shr Jean-Pierre Warner, former High Court

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Albrecht von Wallen-stein, general, Hermanice, Bohe-mia, 1583; Horace Walpole, 4th 1717; Samuel R. Crockett, novelist, Little Duchrae, Kirkcudbright, 1800; Georges Claude, engineer. Parls, 1870; Sir Alan (A. P.) Herbert, writer and politician, Elstead, Surrey, 1890; F. Scott Fltzgerald, novelist, St Paul, Minne-Baron Florey, pathologist, creator of penicillin therapy, Nobel laure ate 1945. Adelaide, 1898; Sir William Dobell, pointer, Newcastle, NSW, 1899; Konstantin Chernenko, General Secretary of the

Soviet Community Party 1984-85, Bolshaya Tes, Central Siberia, 1911.

DEATHS: Paracelsus, physician, Salzburg, 1541; Niels Finsen, physician, Nobel laureate 1903, Copen-hagen, 1904; Melanie Klein, noanalyst, London, 1960.

The St Leger horse race was run for the first time. Doncaster, 1776. Private Lives by Noël Coward was first performed in London starring Coward and Gertrude Lawrence,

The first nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, the USS Enterprise, was launched Newport, Virginia, 1960.

Latest wills

Charlie Chester, the comedian and broadcaster, of Chestfield, Whitstable, Kent, left estate valued at 13-751,777 rver.

Heleft 1100,000 to his wife Joan; 675,000 to his son Peter; £10,000 to the Grand Order of Water Rais; £5,000 to Miss Shella Holt for a very valued friendship; £3,000 to Miss Josle Yenn as a token of his appreciation for her unstinting loyalty and friendship over the years; £6,000 to John and Lydia Dyson with gratitude for "making me one of the lamily".

The Downger Baroness McGowan of Bragborough Hall. Daventry, Northamptonshire, left estate valued at £2,604,051 net. Lady (Margaret) Read, of London Wil, left estate valued at £220,601

net.
Wilhelmina Crapo Wheeler
Minet, of London W8, left estate
valued at £5,641,833 net.
She left £250,000 esch to St Mary
Abbots Church, Kensington,
National Trust, American Museum
in Britain, Weald and Downland
Open Air Museum, Singleton,
Chichester, Huguenot Society of G8
and Ireland; £100,000 to the Inglish
Speaking Union for a teaching
scholarship and to establish an
awards fund.

Robert Appleby, retired company director, of Englefield Green, Surrey, left estate valued at Margaret Jane Beard, of Cobham,

Surrey, left estate valued at £1.452,958 net. Michael Jeremy Kindersley Bel-mont, of Standlake, Oxfordshire, left estate valued at £2,071,472 net. Michael Thomas Usborne Collier, of Emmer Green, Reading, Berk-shire, left estate valued at

£1,467,995 net. Hubert Edward Kenneth Cotton. of Charlbury, Oxfordshire, left estate valued at £1,043,493 net. Gustav Delbanco, of London NW3, left estate valued at £1,559,146 net.

Willoughby Reginald Alexander Fetherstonhaugh, of Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire, left estate valued at £1.477,748 net. Jane Mooney Fullerton, of Brom-ley, Kent. left estate valued at £1,464,000 net.

Arthur Neville Garratt, company director, of Malvern, Hereford and Worcester, left estate valued at El,296.197 net. He left £100 to the Parish of the Priory, Malvern. Barbara Margaret Hester, of

£1,395,805 net. She left £1,000 to Alcoholics Anonymous and to the NSPCC. Victor Kent, of Tring, Hertfordshire, left estate E1,039,669 net. Rupert Ivor Kiaross, of

London W8, left estate valued at

Shepperton, Middlesex, left estate valued at £1,008,369 net. Elly Trude Landauer, of London No, left estate valued at EI,046,218

Desmond Francis Kiernan Leedon, of Walton on Thames, Surrey, left estate valued at E1,131,458 net. Ann Mury MacKenzie, of Caldy, Wirral. Merseyside, left estate valued at £1,366,588 net.

James Frederick Maddocks, of Wincanton, Somerset, left estate valued at £2.887,232 net. He left the remainder of his estate between Riddey House League of Friends, Wincanton, Somerset, Friends of Verrington Hospital, Wincanton, Somerset, League of Friends of Yeovil District Hospital, Wincanton Memorial Hall Foundation, Wincanton Branch of the Red Cross, Wincanton Betweendonal Trust and the National Trust. James Frederick Maddocks, of

Lilian Maud Marsh, of Dunsley, nr Stourbridge, West Midlands, left estate valued at £1,749,257 net. She left 12,000 to Papworth Hospital, Cambridgeshire and St Peter's Church, Kinver, near Stourbridge. Michael Julian Runciman Miller, solicitor, of London Wil, left estate

valued at El,408,804 net. He left £250 to Thames Hares and Hounds and to the Worshipful Company of Cordwalners. Gordon Allen Moore, of Chislehurst. Kent. left estate valued at



Canon Price, left, the new Bishop of Kingston, with the Right Rev Roy Williamson, Bishop of Southwark, yesterday

Bishop will aim at unbelievers

BY RUTH GLEDHILL RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

CANON PETER PRICE, who becomes Bishop of Kingston, an area bishop in Southwark, vesterday pledged to create "new models" of the church to help to bring those of little or no religious belief back into the Christian community.

The Diana event a few weeks ago revealed, as perhaps no other event has done in recent times, a search for ritual, significance, belonging," he said. "The rather crude statistical observation of 3i million people saying the Lord's Prayer may raise quizzical eyebrows. but what is exposed is a longing, a need for new patterns of spirituality."

Canon Price, 53, moves to Kingston from his post as general secretary of the United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel (USPG). a worldwide mission agency based in London.

He made a strong impression among church leaders with his imaginative restructuring of the society after a financial crisis at the start of the decade, leaving it fit to celebrate 300 years of mission in 2001.

Canon Price was born near Kingston upon Thames and became a teacher, being ordained in 1974 after studying at the evangelical Oak Hill Theological College. He has travelled widely, and earlier this year was appointed chairman of the Manna Society, a project for the homeless and refugees, which runs a day centre near London Bridge.

School news

Ealon House School To celebrate our centenary, Eaton

House, Belgravia, will be holding a number of functions throughout the year. This will commence with s ball to be held on Saturday. October 25, at Eaton House The Manor, Clapham Common Northside. Tickets at £55 per person (inclusive of wine) are available from the Ball Organiser, past pupils and parents are welcome. If you would like information about other events or memorabilia or would simply like to keep in touch with other old boys please send your details to: Eaton House School, Centenary Office, 58 Clapham Common Northside, London SW4 9RU.

University news

Durham The following have been promoted

History in 1994. Dr David Fairlie (Mathematica) Sciences); Dr Fairlie joined the university as a Lecturer in 1964 and was promoted Reader in 1969. Dr Peter Manning (Music); Dr Manning joined the university as a Senior Experimental Officer in 1973 and was promoted to Senior Lecturer in 1989.

Dr Michael Penington (Mathematical Sciences and Physics); Dr Pennington joined the university

as a Senior Research Assistant in 1980. He was promoted to Research Officer in 1981. Senior Lecturer in 1990 and to Reader in 1994. Dr Paul Sillitoe (Anthropology):

promoted to Reader in 1992. The following are promoted to

Dr Gerald Brooke (Chemiston, Dr. Anne Campbell (Psychology). Dr Robert Drewett (Psychology), Dr Max Paddison (Music), Dr Robert Barton (Anthropology), Dr Chris-topher Brooks (History), Dr Gillian Foulger (Geological Sci-Dr Andrew Monkman (Physics), Dr Mathew Penrose (Mathematical Sciences), Dr Fiona Robertson (English Studies).

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J.A. Orr-Ewing and Miss P.M. Gleadell The engagement is announced between James, younger son of the Hon Simon and Mrs Orr-Ewing. of Fifield, Oxfordshire, and Polly. elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Giles Gleadell, of Clapham, SW4.

Mr G.T.J. de Trafford and Miss S. Evans The engagement is announced between Thomas, youngest son of Sir Dermot de Trafford, Bt, and Countess Michalowska, and Susan, daughter of Mr and Mrs lan Evans, of Johannesburg.

Mr R.M. Chadwick and Miss S.V. Beaugie

The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Mr and Mrs Ian Chadwick, of Sale. Cheshire, and Sian, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Beaugie, of Highgate, London. Mr H.R. Jones

and Miss A.C. Procter and Miss A.C. Proceed The engagement is announced between Hume, eldest son of His Honour Judge and Mrs Graham Jones, of Somerset, and Abiguil. youngest daughter of the late Mr Charles Procter and of Mrs James Nicholas and stepdaughter of Mr James Nicholas, of Herefordshire. Mr G.R. Keeling and Miss M.P.J. Richards

The engagement is announced between Guy, son of Major General and Mrs Andrew Keeling, of Salisbury, Wiltshire, and Penelope, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Gwilym Richards, of Newcastle Emlyn, Carmarthenshire.

Mr X.M.P. Marchand and Miss A. Elliot

The engagement is announced between Xavier, younger son of M Pierre Marchand, of Peymeinade. France and of the late Mme France Marchand, and Alexandra, elder daughter of Mr Graeme Elliot of London, and Signora Luigi Grassi, of Florence, Italy,

Mr C. Wheeler-Carmichael and Miss L. Bertorelli The engagement is announced between Charles, younger son of the late Mr Tom Wheeler-Carmichael and of Mrs Jane Wheeler-Carmichael, of Bath, and Louise, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Frank Bertorelli, of Bridgend, Mid-Glamorgan.

Mr S.C. Farmbrough and Miss S. Yun The engagement is announced between Simon, elder son of Mr and Mrs S.C.Y. Farmbrough, of Pavenham. Bedfordshire, and Suna, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs W. Yun, of Kanagawa, Japan. Mr A.P. Nettleton

J. M. Standard Standard

and Miss P.J. Shaw The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Mr and Mrs John Nettleton, of Walton-on-Thames, Surrey, and Philippa, daughter of Mr and Mrs Nigel Shaw, of Sydling St Nicholas,

Dorset Mr G.N. Snell

and Miss J.S. Morkill The engagement is announced The engagement is announced between Guy, eldest son of Mr and Mrs L.N. Snell, of Lower Farm, Cottered, Hertfordshire, and Jennifer, daughter of Mr Tond Morkill and Mrs Mary Jane

Marriages

Or the Hon Humphrey

and Miss Z.D. Rankin The marriage took place on Sat-urday, September 20, at Cranston Church, of Dr the Hon Humphrey Drummond, second son of Captain Humphrey Drummond of Megginch and Lady Strange, to Miss Zara Daisy Rankin, only daughter of Sir Ian Rankin, BL

and Mrs George Asseily.

A reception took place at Oxenfoord Castle, nears Edinburgh. Mr R.H. Hartley

and Miss J.M. Goor the marriage took place on Tues-day. September 23. at Chelsea Register Office, of Mr Robin Hartley, son of Sir Christopher Hartley, of Farmoor, Oxford, and of the late Lady Hartley, and Miss Jacqueline Goor, daughter of the late Mr Yves Goor and of Mrs Goor, of Co Wicklow. Mr J.M.P. Bacon

and Miss R.E. Hudson The marriage took place on September 13, 1997, at St Andrew's Church, Preston with Sutton Poyntz, of Jonathan, son of Patsy and Roger Bacon, of Arlingham,
Gloucestershire, to Ruth, daughter
of Christine and Malcolm
Hudson, of Preston, Dorset.

The Leverhulme Trust

Leverhulme Research Awards 1997

Awards to individuals 1997

The trustees have approved the following awards to individuals under schemes administered by their Research Awards Advisory

Study Abroad Studentships C Anderson, Indian convicts in

Southeast Asia, c.1780-1840 A French, Architectural space frames enlarging and activating the void —

H J Gardner, Andsemitism in Japan: an historical analysis — Japan R C Gibbons, Women and power in later medieval France - France P.J. Gillingham, Cuar

archaeology and nationalism in Mex-ico — Mexico J S Gillon. Natural variation in leaf water isotopic composition — Israel TEB Heys, Application of interactive technologies in contemporary arts — Australia

N P Higgins, Mayan Indians and the modern Mexican state 1810-1994 — Mexico

A N W Hone, integrable systems: reductions and applications — Italy

time in place - Ireland C A L Lane. Novel methodology for synthesis of substituted aromatics — Canada J R.F Lipkin. Citizen politics in

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March 4

PERSO

K M Huxley. The metamorphosis of

Britain and France - France C M M Lupton, Negation in French experimental cinema since 1945 — France

Auroratia M N Prescott. Ecological niche

century romance compilations — America and the Palestinian question

J-A Scott, Modelling lodgepole pine invasion in New Zeuland -- New Zentanti

Argentina Stewart, The lecture as form: modernity and self-representation Germany

PERSONAL COLUMN

PRIVATE: 0171 48	31 4000
The jews at Beroes were more fair-minded than those at Therelogical them there are necessarily	

BURTHS

EIDWELL - On September to Claire (nee Wright) Supert 2 son, Thomas John,

DREWERY - On 10th September, to Marion (nee September, to Marion (Hill) and Robert, 2 Son, Alexander James Edward. September, to Emma (abe Barry) and Jeremy, a daughter, Bose Antonia, a sister for Tom and Daisy.

MANNESLEY - See Develop

Lindsey and Richard, a beautiful daughter. 20th, at The Partland Hospital, to Esthleer (the Roye) and David, a daughter, Catherine Churchill, a sister for lack and Maggie.

SCANLON - On September 10th at The Fortland Hospital, to Mary (née Yahey) and Rob, a daughter, Clivia.

States on 5th September of St John's Hospital, Chairmford to Larreine and Bobers, the gift of a daughter, Entily Ease. VOCDROW - On September 17th in Sydney, to Sarah (nos Jackson) and James, a daughter, Leura Sally.

ALEXANDER - WA (MID Died pessenby on Setudes 20th September at Nashley Nursing Home after a progressive illness. Much loved husband of Sonia, father of Susan, Sally, Jane and thurty Ster-father of father of Susan, Sally, Jan and Jimmy, Step-father (Sarah Miles, Fions an Sarah Miles, Floma and devoted grandfather. A private cremation, followed by a Service of Thankspiving for family and friends at Medisenburn Parish Church at 3pm on October 1st. No flower, the Church of the Control o

Alles - Dick (Dongles) aged 51.00 Separator FOck, efter a short illness. Hund level a short illness. Hund level to the short of the sand tather of Tansay and Kirsty. Dearly missed by family, friends and colleagues within the intricultural intensity and as Fresident of the Horticultural Trades Association. Puneral Service at All Seint's, Crowborough on Thursey Crowbe and et 11.00a.m. Family Flowers only. Donations if desired for Oxfam to Faul Bysouth Funeral Services, Crowborough.

ERISON - Susun N.S.S.D. (néo Kitty Benson) September 19th, at St John's House, Alum Rock Road, Birmingham aged 80. Beloved sister of Jan Bensoo. Beloved sister of lan sensors of Affect Hall, Church Service followed by cremation in Biratingham on Friday September 26th at

BLAKE - Engane Percival
Thomas (Hugh) Ir. Col.
Treated was a last Blasse
on September 21st 1997.
Husband of Hary, beloved
father of Pene and Donk
and adoved grandfather of
jeunifes, Michael, Caroline,
Naholas and Aloxandra.
Requiem Mass to be held at
St Andrew's Church,
Tenterden on Wednesday
October 1st az Ilam, Family
flowers only, donations if
desired to cancer research

in Herefordshire, formerly of East Africa. Thanks be to God. For funeral

20th September 1997, peacefully at his home in Chichester, aged 97 years. Minute inthe of Lichard and Anthony, guandinther of Sarah, Chuvies, Harriet, Lucilla, Piers and Joe. Cremation at Chichester Cremation at Chichester Chematical Country and 1997 at 2nd October 1997 at 4.30pm Family Howers only, donations if wished may be sent to St Wilfrids Hospice, Chichester PO19 2FP.

CUDE Suddenly but CUDE - Suddenly but peacefully on 13th September 1997, Geoffrey aged 64 years. The beloved herband of Jam and Arber of Shings, Victoria and the late Jonathan. Funeral Service to take place with a Graveside Service in Southwick Cemetery on Friday 26th September 1997, at 2ym. Enquiries to Baker & Sons, 60 Church Road, Portslade. Tet 01273 418464.

Sandy, darling mother of jonathan and Chire, sdored Grandmother and Great-grandmother. Funeral at 1145 am. on Priday 26th September at Mortonhall Crematorium Pentland Chanel Estribe Greene mile

RG30 2DX, will always be

HENSON - Henry Michael George (Mike) on 18th September in Sherberna aged 53. Much loved hosband of Nichola, father of Sarah-Louise, Amanda and Tarya and grand of Max. Private cres Service of Thankegiv of Max. Private cremation.
Service of Thankspiving at
St. John the Evangelist
Church, Milhome Port, Mr.
Sherborne, Donset on 1st.
October at 3pm. Family
flowers only please.
Donations if desired, cfo
W.S. Brister & Son, 100
Leather, Read, Sherborne,
Desset, UTV 6AG, Tel. No.
01935 812647, for caseer
research.

to Professor from October 1, 1997: Dr Richard Britnell (History); Dr Britnell joined the university as a Lecturer in Economic History in 1966. He was promoted to Senior Lecturer in 1986 and to Reader of

Dr Sillitoe joined the university as Lecturer in 1984 and

C S Hughes, Electoral accountability in Cambodia — Cambodia

TRADE: 0171 481 1982 FAX: 0171 481 9313

grandfather of Matthew. Funeral service at 2.30µm on Friday 26 September at All Hallows Church, South Cerney, Nr Cirencester. Family flowers only, but domations if desired to the Abhainer's Disease Society c/o Mr R Carter, Funeral Director, Chelvey, High Ed, Ashton Keynes, Wilts (01185 B61372) TURNER - Philip, Sculptor, o Sentember 20th; hosband o

SOOT - 1982-1997. From heaven he was sent and the heaven he returns. With me eternal love. Tony.

pescently after many years of loving care in a mussing home on 22nd September. Beloved wife of the late Caries Suction, sundend mother to Heather and Petricia, grandmother of Richolas, Kirsty, Stephen, Angela and Jessica. Thanksgiving Service on Monday 29th September at 3pm, Bramshott Church, Liphook. Family flowers only. Doustions to RNLL to be sent to G. M. Loff and Partners, 84. Lion Lune, Haslemere, Surrey GU27 1pt.

donations to RRLL clo H. Leslie Humphreys, 69 Liverpool Read, Crosby 123

enquiries to funeral mecture, 0181 546 2223.

Died peschally in Tueson.
Arkness, USA on the 22nd
September. Much loved
laments and grandfuther of
Japon. Pumeral in Tueson.
Domaticus if desired to,
Help the Hospices, 24/44
Britannia Street London
Willy Ole. WC1X 9JG

29th September at 4pm. Friends velcome. Enquiries to E E Hickmort & Sons. 01892 522462.

White On September 19th Margaret dear sister of John and sender of The Finder Centre. Funeral Service at St John the Baptist Church, Alicaford on Saturday October 11th at 11am. Ho flowers. Donations if desired, to The Pinder Centre, Avington, Rampakine 8021 113D.

TABOR - Geoffrey Michael, MSE, died peacefully at the Grange Nursing Home, Blunsden St Andrew, on 22 September aged 70, after a long illness. Seloved husband of Andrée, such loved father of Christopher, father-in-law of Rebects and grandfather of Matthew. Funeral service at 2.30 pm

TURNER - Philip, Scripper, on September 20th; husband of Minky (Ellsabeth de Stioumillo), father of Venetia and Emma, gamdiather of Charlotte and Sophie, after moziths of debilitating illness. Fruseni Service at Chelsea Old Church at noon, October 2nd. No flowers please; donations if wished to Artists General Emerolemt Institution, Surlington House, London WIV ODJ.

WOODS - S. John, Painter an graphic designer. 21.11.1915 - 22.9.1997. Very much loved and missed. Funeral at Barbam Cumatorium, Friday, 26th September 1997 at 9.30am.

ALLSOFF - The Hon. North Hydrintis Memorial Service and Committed at St. Peter's Church, Ogier Sunday 12th October 1997 at 1130au Enquiries 01335 390637

HOLLAND - A Service of Thunksgiving for the life of the late Sir Guy Holland St, will be held at St Mary's Church, Burford, Oxfordshire on Thursday 30th October at 2.30pm.

IN MEMORIAM -PRIVATE

W.B.R. - Never forgotten. 24 September 1940, Forev remembered, D. GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

OVERSEAS TRAVEL ORTHGAL & CHILDRIGH All areas.
Villas/appl, botols, pourades,
polf bols. Alights. Longatore
int's. 0181 654 2424. Refers

TICKETS Ryder Cap

> Eng V Australia 0171 323 4480

R Mohammad. Spanish regionalism and the politics of water — Spain . M D Pearson. Synthesis of organic sounds using cellular models —

partitioning between Australian aca-cia species — Australia P J Rand, Narrative impulse in 13th-

P A Spikins, Archaeological and ethno-archaeological research inne-Paragonian hunter-gatherers Patagonian

S J Van Willigenburg. The Dini-Lie structure of free associative algebras

BMDS: 0171 680 6880

Themsalomica: they received the message with great eagerness, studying the scriptures every day to see if it was true. Acts of the Apostles 17: 11

BEWICKE-COPLEY - To Lord and Lady Commell a son and Lady Cromwell a son, David Godfrey, 21st September 1997. CHAPMAN - On 23rd September 1997, to Sally (nee Brown) and Robert, a son, Sam Henry.

LESTER - On 18th September at The Portland Hospital, 1

MALONEY - On September 12th 1997, to Connor and Flour, a boautiful daughter

(née Jourdan) at home on Saturday 20th September. Widow of John, and loved nother and grandmother. Private mattice. Service of Thanksgiving at St Michael and All Angels Church, Goding Power on Monday 29th September at 2.30pm. No flowers, donations if desired to Moore Cottage Hospital, Bourton-on-the-Water, Gloucestenshire.

CARTEN - Gauffrey Thomas brother of Edward paacefully at Endcliff Infirmary, Oxford, Priday 19th September 1997. COOPER - Albert Stewart (Stew) DFM. BAF. (Brd), suddenly in Worthing Hospital on 21st September, and 73 year. Permany with St. Patterney and NATO West Dawton. Cherished husband of Susie and Angue, proud gamps of English. Pose and Dariel, hourse of Gretz. Perman St. Patterney Service at Worthing Crematorium on Tuesday 30th September at 200pm. Flowers or donations to Sussessdown BAFA Home, Storrington c/o H.D. Tribe Ltd., 130 Broadwater Road, Worthing St. Sussex, Sussex

Worthing, West Sussen BN14 8HU. Telephone 01903 234516.

(CIS) On 20th September 1997 suddenly turn happliy at home in Edinburgh. Devoted wife of the late Sandy, darling mother of loasts.

everts - Peacefully at home on September 21st aged 88 years Dr. Leonard Charles Everts of Woolsington. Beloved husband of Phyl and the late 10. Funeral Service Enthodres - Carolin Bentos, Newcastle-upon-Tyne on Friday 26th produced by compation at Newcastle Communication at Newcastle Communication at 3 o'clock. Flowers if desired may be sent to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the sent to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the sent to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the sent to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the sent to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the sent to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the sent to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the sent to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the sent to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the sent to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the sent to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the sent to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the sent to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the second to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the second to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the second to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the second to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the second to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the second to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the second to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the second to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the second to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the second to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the second to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the second to I Bandgest & Sons, we see that the second to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the second to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the second to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the second to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the second to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the second to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the second to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the second to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the second to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the second to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the second to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the second to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the second to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the second to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the second to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the second to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the second to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the second to I Bandgest & Sons, we see the second t

FERM - John Jacob, died peacefully on September 19th a time Declara of Lerr House, Delivood Hospital, Reading, Berkshire, after a long and defilitating filmes which he had endured coungeously. He leaves his loving wife Hauther and, from the Hauther and, from the Hauther and Caughter Fanketts and her see Creamition takes place privately, but there will be a Memorial Service at St. Nicolar's Church, Taplow, Berkshire on Wednesday, October the 1st at 400pm, followed by a reception at his home. No flowers but dometican to Drukess of Kent House, WEPCS, Dallwood Hospital, Reading, EGSO 2702, will always be

scompani- idail (saw Sin) on 22nd September, pencefully at Brockhampton Court, Esrectedahire aged 76. Dear Aunt of David and Sally (Walton), Faneral Savice at Hernford Cremationism at 10am, Saturday 27th September, Donations, if Section to Chang, Frinces of Wales Memorial Fund. Family flowers only, Engalter to 01981 580014.

EUCZAK. Zygmunt, Jerry. Died peacefully at home on 21st September aged 84. Much loved husband of the late Elena Luczak, father of Dadina and grandfather. Funeral Service at West Bentondaling Commonton (Ganston) on Tuesday 30th September at 1200. Pandly flowers only but donations in Archiva and Engantees. Council for Research, Copeman House, St.Mary's Count, St. Mary's Gate, Chestand Sel 71D

McCUTCHEON 0n 21
September 1997, suddenly
but peacefully aged 79
Donald Sutherland
McCutcheon M.C. of
WestHorsley Survey late 4th
E.W. O Gustha Edne ad
Royal Artillery, Beloved
hushand of Jean (née
Mangle Solom and Amile
Page and proud gunndfather
of Seven, Funeral at All
Sahnts Chunch, Ockham, on
Thursday, 25th September
1997 at 2.30pm, Family
Howest and, bet Grakha
Welfare Trust, 88 Baker
Street, London WI 2AX.
Enquiries to Fimms 01483
567394.

McCUTCHEON - On 21 September 1997, suddenly but peacefully aged 79 Donald Sutherland McCaucheon M.C. of West Horsley Surrey late 4th F.W.O. Gurkhe Riffes and Boyal Artillery, Beloved busband of Jean (née Mercer), much loved father of Maggie Solon and Annis of Maggie Solom and Annis Page and proud grandfather of seven. Funeral at All Saints Church, Ockham, on Thursday, 25th September 1997 at 2.30pm. Pamily Howers only, but denotions in Her to the Gurkha Welfare Trust, 88 Baker Street, London WI 2AL Enquiries in Firmer 01483 567394.

MOORE - Barnie (Eleanor Victoria) (nee Van den Bok). Very peacefully on September 21st 1997, aged 100 years. Whie of the late Major George Gny Moore. Much beloved and respected by her family, Michael and Anna Moore and three generations of nephews and saint's Church, Whiteparish on Housely 29th September at 11.00 am. Flowers of dotations in her memory to Oxfam or the RS.PR. cfo IN. Newman Ltd., Griffin House, 55 Winchester Street, Salisbury, SP1 1RL. Tel: (01722) 418186.

(01722) 415136.

MUSGROVE - (née Morgan).

Suddenly un September
22nd at Weston General
Hospital, Margarer Muriel
aged 85. Wildow of Major
Cowald Rylett Musgrowe, The
Cowan Howmath. Much lovel
modies of Peter and Debths.
Engintee to Keth C. Relling
a Son, Funesal Directors, 10
High Struet, Yatton, North
Somerset 8319 47A. Tel01794 232115.

NEWCASTIE - Diama Duchess

Olym ESTI15.

NEWCASTLE - Diama Duchess of Newcastle died 19th September 1997 peacefully at house aged 77. Peaseral private. Service of Thankesgiving for her life Tuesday 28th October 1997, Boyton Parish Church, Spm. Donations will be dished between cancer research and The Injuned Jockey's Fund of F Curits & Son, Fenseal Directors, 11 Portway, Warminster (01985) 712033 or ha collection at the church.

PIROSS or he conscious at the church.
NILSON - Angela née Cambres Balovad etté of Ted, mother of Relema and Castre. Died pescerally on Service at the Greek Cathedral, Moscow Read, Loudon on Thursday 25th September at 2pm followed by creamation at Patney Vale at 4pm. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Princess Alice Hospics clo P. W. Paine 29 Coombe Ecod, Kingston upon Thames, W. Paine 29 Coombe Road, Kingston upon Thomas, Summy KT2 7AX. OWTRAM - Rosemaris (née Webb-Johnson) on 21st Espisables in bespiral elver injuries bavety endured. Pussenl at Tambridgo Wells Crematorium on Monday 29th September at 4pm. Friends welcoss. Enquiries

September pencefully at home Daniy beloved wife of Frank Reade. Service at Thornton Crematorium on Monday 29th September at 2pm. No flowers please, but donations to RNI! Jan.

SCOTT - Walter. Died peacefully on 20th September 1997. Beloved husband of Kathleen, grandisthet to Kim, Seldon and Julian. Foneral, Klugston Creustorfum, Friday 26th September, 340pm. Family Howess only, Douatimes intenuciries to funeral

Siff fohn Ingham. On September 22nd after a short illness. Beloved trusband of fixed, devoted father of Tom and Micola (Underwood) and grandfather of Chrisopher and Jessica. Feneral Woodwale Crematorium, brigarma, kinder Epseude 29th, Span. Family flowers only. Devastions if desired to any cancer charity.

SPALDEMS - Annie Phyllis, September 21st 1997. Peacefully at her home, Gower Bouse, Liandshywil, Anglessy after long suffering aged 89 years. Beloved wife of Reith, private Service at Bangor Crematorium. No Univers.

STOWELL - Marion (Norsh) passed peacefully away on September 20th aged 81 years. Sadly missed by family and friends. Puneral Service on Thursday September 25th, Oxford Crematorium at 4pm.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

THANKSGIVING SERVICES

Thankegiving for the Hife of Nancy Wanshrough will be held in Winchester Cathedral on Saturday, October 25th at 2pm.

DE FERRANTI - In loving memory of Box, still sadi-missed by Hilary and all the bandy.

william Busseam or Massa Blizabeth Sawney at St Andrew's Church, Enfield, Middlesen, 24th September 1947.

REEN Ricolo Helen 18 years of today. With every good wish fo the future Mum, Dad & James MAJOR Robert George Collin Cove, on his 80th birthday, with lots of love from all his family and friends.

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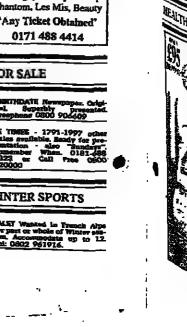
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METCALFE - Peter Allum suddanly at his home in West Hampstead on 18th September, Dearly loved mother of West, Funsail & Goldens Green Crematorium on 29th September, 12.30pm Enquiries John Nodes & Sons 0181 452 2430. هدا من الرمالي

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OBITUARIES

DIANA DUCHESS OF NEWCASTLE

Diana Duchess of Newcastle. jockey and master of foxhounds died on September 19 aged 77. She was born on June 2, 1920.

iana Duchess of Newcastle was one of a disappearing breed, the amateur all-rounder in sport. She rode races across Western Europe at a time when women jockeys were forbidden from competing on the flat in mainland Britain. She was a master of foxhounds, a polo player, and a Monte Carlo rally driver (an activity that developed from her role as a wartime dispatch rider). And she made her mark at whatever she tried.

She grew up in the Yorkshire countryside, which she loved. She never went to school, being educated by a succession of governesses. She rode ponies and made friends with all sorts of people, such as the gypsy families who camped on the family estate; when a teenager she cut her wrist to mix blood with a Romany

girl, pledging undying friendship. A good-looking woman with huge dark eyes, she did everything with a sense of style and dash and enjoyment. She could, too, be unpredictable and at times embarrassing. She once went to a hunt ball wearing her father's regimental red jacket, complaining that there was no special uniform for a woman who happened

to be a master of foxhounds. Diana Montague-Stuart-Wortly-Mackenzie was the second daughter of Viscount Carlton, who later became the 3rd Earl of Warncliffe. Her mother, the former Lady Elfreda Wentworth-Fitzwilliam, eldest daughter of the 7th Earl Fitzwilliam, was a redoubtable character who ran her own munitions factory during the Second World War and hunted her own pack of beagles.

That the Duchess should be named Diana after the goddess of hunting, was appropriate. The Earls Fitzwilliam have had their own pack of foxhounds in the Midlands since 1760. And their commitment to racing is almost as great. The family's house party for the Doncaster races each year until the Second World War was the biggest in the country. Guests were each given a different colour of

confetti to drop along the corridors of the huge house, Wentworth Wood-house, so that they could find their way from their bedrooms back to the drawing room. The Duchess's uncle. the 8th Earl Fitzwilliam, raced suc-cessfully in Britain, Ireland and France. In 1948 he was killed in a plane crash in the South of France when eloping with the Countess of Hartington, "Kick", the eldest sister

of President Kennedy.

Diana Newcastle had a successful war, spending several years in the Motorised Transport Corps, bringing messages a couple of times a week from Cambridge to London on her motorcycle. She became friendly with a number of leading wartime airmen, among them Group Captain Hugh ("Chatty") Dundas, who after the war had a distinguished career with Beaverbrook Newspapers and Thames Television.

The man she married, as his second wife, in 1946 was another airman, the 9th Duke of Newcastle, a prewar civilian pilot who commanded 616 South Yorkshire Squadron and later was a section commander

in Fighter Command. Henry Edward Hugh Pelham-Clinton-Hope, the 9th Duke of Newcastle, was probably the least known of all the non-royal dukes. His ancestor the 1st Duke, of this the second creation, was Thomas Pelham Holles, who was described during his years as Prime Minister in the mid-18th century as a man "whose faults were forgivable and whose intentions were good". The name Hope was added to the family names by the 9th Duke's grandfather when a Miss Hope, the Hope Diamond heiress, married into the family. It was thought that the marriage would finally secure the dukedom's financial future, but later the diamond, of 44 carats, was sold for £120,000 to

The 9th Duke, like his wife, was keen on sports. He captained Eton at cricket in its year of unbroken success in 1926. He was a successful ice hockey competitor and played the drums in a jazz band at nightclubs whenever he had the opportunity.

live on his property in Rhodesia and

pay the Newcastle tax debts.

husband remarried. Two years after the marriage the 9th Duke decided that he wanted to



moved his family there. This was a big disappointment to his new wife. Also, their temperaments clashed and neither supported the sporting interests of the other. In 1950 they returned to England to live in Wiltshire, but the marriage was not a success and after they had lived apart it ended in divorce in 1959, when her

After they separated the Duchess became very active in the horse

world. At the age of 32 she rode in her first point-to-point race. It was the hunt race of the Wylye Valley Hunt, a sporting provincial pack with the delightful Vale country on the west side of Salisbury Plain and extending to the outskirts of Bath. It was never a rich hunt, and the Duchess did a great deal of the work herself. She was hunt master for several seasons until the financial drain became too

At the age of 34 she entered the Monte Carlo Rally for the first time, driving her Sunbeam Talbot, and finished with a respectable placing. But race riding was to become her passion. While buying horses for the hunt, she chanced to see King Henry's Road, then an eight-year-old. He was turned out in a field as his hot temperament was considered to make him a poor prospect as a racehorse. The Duchess and the horse hit it off splendidly, and over almost a decade he provided her with a string of winning rides.

in 1957 she won the 12-mile race for the Queen's Cup in Jersey. She set her heart on riding at the main courses, but women were not allowed to ride under the Rules of Racing. She set about getting this state of affairs changed. Meanwhile, she registered as a jockey in France, Italy, Sweden and Germany, where women were not banned. She raced over some of the finest courses in those countries, including Chantilly, mostly on borrowed horses. In Italy, having been admitted to the Italian Association of Gentlemen Riders, she asked the legendary Vincent O'Brien, trainer of Epsom Derby winners and Grand National winners, if he could find her a horse to ride in the amateur Grand National in Merano. He did. But she ended up on the floor and finished the day in hospital after her horse hit one of the solid timber fences and turned over. Three months later she was back in the saddle riding at Larkhill.

In 1972, some 11 years after she started campaigning for women jockeys, the Jockey Club changed its rules to allow them to compete. The Duchess was then 52 years old rather late for a serious start. But she would not be denied. After six weeks of demanding gymnastics and a strict diet, she got her weight down to 9 stone and started looking round for likely horses. Before calling it a day she rode at her home course Salisbury, and at Doncaster and Folke-

The Duke died in 1988, almost a recluse. Having returned from Rhodesia and Jamaica, he went to live in a cottage on the quay at Lymington in Hampshire. The dukedom is now extinct. The Duchess is survived by their two daughters.

PAUL NEWMAN

Paul Newman, architect. died on holiday in Spain as the result of a fall on September 5 aged 43. He was born on July 27, 1954.

PAUL NEWMAN was a part-ner in the firm of Powell Moya, the architects made famous by their winning scheme for the Skylon at the 1951 Festival of Britain. The firm has long been distinguished by its specialisation in local authority housing. hospitals and educational buildings - areas in which Newman had a profound interest. Paul Kenrick Newman was

born in Stroud, Gloucester-

shire, and educated at Mountford House, Nottingham, and at Nottingham High School. From there he went on to Bristol University to train, qualifying as an architect in 1980. He worked briefly with the gifted designers Tom Hancock, Peter Bond and Pierre d'Avoine, before joining Powell Moya in 1983, There, he started work at once on one of their largest

commissions, the Hastings District General Hospital, a £30 million, 370-bed building, an involvement which he carried right through until its opening in 1992. On the strength of his contribution he was made an associate in the firm in 1988. Other commissions on

which he worked during these years included St Anne's clinic for the elderly and mentally ill in East Sussex in 1987. Then, as a result of a competitionwinning scheme in 1988, he directed the master planning of the Brunswick Wharf and East India Dock Basin in London's Docklands, covering 26 acres altogether, which was completed in 1990, the year he was made a partner.

After this came the competition for the European Parliament building in Strasbourg, a gigantic affair overlooking the river and containing the



enormous semi-circular as sembly structure, with office accommodation and communication centres framing a central garden. Of course there was a large team working on the project, and this included Sir Philip Powell and Hidalgo Moya, but Newman was the partner in charge, and it was largely his design. The scheme did not, however, win, but came only second - a great disappointment for Newman. The winner was a French architect.

In the next six years he was involved with many different projects: school designs in Tower Hamlets, hospitals in South and North Wales, and one in Belfast. He was also shortlisted for yet another in Graz, Austria.

At the time of his accidental death, caused by a balcony parapet giving way in a Spanish hotel, he had just taken on the design of the Moore extension to the Royal Holloway and Bedford New College, University of London, and was on the point of seeing his latest buildings, consisting of additions to the late 19thcentury Birmingham Children's Hospital, completed. This was a particularly beautiful work of modern architecture at its simplest and most reticent.

He died while on holiday with his girlfriend and is survived by his father, mother

ness of words. "Words have a

DAVID MATTHEWS

David Matthews, CBE, plastic surgeon, died on August 25 aged 86. He was born on July 7, 1911.

DAVID MATTHEWS WES pre-eminent among the second generation of British plastic surgeons, and his death severs one of the final links with Gillies, McIndoe, Kilner and Mowlem, the four founding fathers of plastic surgery in the United Kingdom.

Born in Bromley, Kent, David Napier Matthews was educated until the age of ten by his mother and a govern-ess. He won an exhibition from the Leys School to Queens' College, Cambridge, to read modern languages but, once there, changed his mind in favour of medicine. He represented the university at hockey before going on to

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Charing Cross Hospital with a major scholarship, qualifying in 1935. The next year he became the youngest Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons in Britain. He was appointed chief

assistant to Sir Stanford Cade, a leading cancer surgeon at the Westminster Hospital. who told him: "I make big holes. Go and learn how to fill them." This he did, from Sir Harold Gillies, Professor Kilner and Sir Archibald McIndoe. In 1939 he went as Mo-

Indoe's first assistant to help with the setting up and running of the famous plastic surgery unit at East Grinstead, spending three days a week there and four at the Westminster.

In 1941 he joined the RAF and ran a 60-bed plastic

FLIGHTS

DIRECTORY



surgery unit at RAF Halton (where he recalled the men of the Free Polish Air Force as being the most uncontrollable post-operative patients). In 1946 he was demobilised with the rank of wing commander and was appointed OBE. He had also found time to carry

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out important work on skin graft storage with Dame Honor Fell at Strangeways Lab-oratories in Cambridge and to write his acclaimed book Surgery of Repair (1943).

in 1946 he was appointed consultant to University College Hospital, London, and in 1947 he became consultant to the Hospital for Sick Children. Great Ormand Street. In both these NHS posts he gave unstinting service, exhibiting vision and leadership as well as technical mastery. (He was ambidextrous, which earned him the sobriquet "Two-Hands Matthews".)

He was not afraid of innovation, and five years before his retirement in 1976 he went to Paris to learn Paul Tessier's pioneering but complex craniofacial techniques for children with prematurely

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fused skull bones, before performing in the first of 55 cases in Britain. He was an outstanding teacher. He became civilian consul-

tant to the Royal Navy and, successively, to BOAC, BEA and BA, as well as being adviser in plastic surgery to the Ministry of Health. He was also much sought-after in private practice, treating a wide variety of people, including many of the most eminent. from royal children to stars of stage and screen. As secretary of the second

international congress in plas-tic surgery, in London in 1958, he played a major part in founding the International Confederation for Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery. He then nurtured it as its general secretary and treasurer for four years, during which 31 national societies and associations were signed up. This period confirmed the transition of the rapidly developing postwar speciality from a loose amalgamation of societies to a well organised international body accessible to all nations.

He was advanced to CBE in 1976, becoming public spokes-man for the British Heart Foundation for several years. On retirement, he took up pottery and fly-fishing and remained an active member of the local volunteer driver service well into his eighnes, generally ferrying people to and from hospital who were many years younger than himself.

David Matthews possessed great personal charm and wit, allied to innate curiosity, enormous energy and a deep, even obsessive sense of duty. Physically striking, with piercing blue eyes, he was humane, kind and loyal. He is survived by his wife

Betty, whom he married in 1940, and by two sons and a daughter.

ROBERT PINGET

Robert Pinget, French author, died in Tours on August 25 aged 78. He was born in Geneva on July 19, 1919.

THE author of some thirty

books, Robert Pinget was perhaps the most constant but also one of the least-known of the writers associated with the nouveau roman, which dominated French literature for nearly three decades. He was saluted as a "precursor" by Alain Robbe-Grillet, the chief propagandist for the school, in which identity, point of view and narrative become problematic, subject to the uncertainties and complexities genera-

ted by language itself.

But Pinget himself was reticent, and had no need of the theoretical justifications sometimes used to disguise a lack of imagination or sympathy. His novels and plays were not hermetic displays of cleverness and obfuscation but, like those of his close friend Samuel Beckett, emotional meditations on the misery and comedy of our being born into a world ill-suited to finer feelings. Like Beckett's, Pinget's work is populated by voices moving, amusing, disorientat-ing — which circle round and

it was Beckett who recommended Pinget to his publisher at Editions de Minuit; Jerome Lindon, after Pinget had written to him asking for help in finding translation work. That was the beginning of a long friendship between the two men, built around discussions of language and technique, though rarely of more personal matters. They were kindred spirits, although Pinget's work has less despair and suffering. Robert Pinget was born in

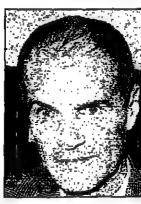
round their experiences.

Geneva in 1919, the son of a colonel. At university he studied law, passing his final exams in 1944. However, he

had little inclination for a profession. He had started writing poems at 16 and had become a fine cellist. At the end of the war he left

Switzerland for Paris, where he enrolled at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts. When not painting, he travelled, gaining experience in a kibbutz in the new state of Israel, and working on the construction of a railway in Yugoslavia. His first book, a volume of

short stories. Entre Fantoine et Agapa, was published in



1951 at his own expense. Subsequent books were accepted (and sometimes rejected) by a variety of publishers, until, with the help of Beckett, he moved finally from Gallimard to Les Editions de Minuit In 1959 he published his novel Le Fiston, which Beckett admired.

Pinget was then entering his most productive period. In 1960 he took French nationality, and two years later he won the Prix des Critiques for L'inquisitoire: 500 pages long. and consisting of a seemingly interminable juxtaposition of two monologues, it remains his best-known work. In 1965 he was awarded the Fémina for Quelqu'un. Pinget's real inspiration -

"my only guide as a writer" —

life independent of our reason. Playing with them reveals to us a foreign world that is nevertheless our world," he said. His work is austere, but never emptily formalist. For Pinget's linguistic probing was driven by a real desire to capture something of the world and to keep death at bay. To maintain speech eternity," he said. This interest soon manifest-

ed itself in the theatre. He wrote his first play, Lettre morte, about a demented old man, in 1959. A further 11 plays followed, most of them essentially monologues in which atmosphere, absurdity and words prevailed over action. Several were performed on BBC Radio 3.

In 1957 Beckett had agreed that Pinget should translate his radio play All That Fall into French. It is a sign of Beckett's esteem that he accepted the translation almost without change. And in 1960, uniquely, he compounded the compliment by translating Pinget's play La manivelle into English as The Old Tune.

Beckett now became invalved with productions of Pinget's plays in Paris, taking Harold Pinter to see La manivelle in rehearsal on the first occasion they met. This introduction to directing was to prove important to Beckett. who later often directed his own pieces. In 1966 a Paris theatre staged the Spectacle Beckett, Pinget, Ionesco, which included Beckett's Comédie (Play) and Pinger's L'hypothèse.

Pinget was an extremely private man, speaking little of his life outside writing. Or, rather, as he put it in 1980: "I have absolutely nothing to say about my life, except that the whole of it has gone into my books and been transformed there." He was unmarried.

was language itself, the sounds, rhythms and strange-

Sir,—King Hudson begins now to feel that, though "placed on high", he is not altogether "above the storm's career." The Times of Saurday last contained a little paragraph. copied from a Hull paper, stating that Lord Worsley, on entering the Monarch's terri-tories, quitted the 1st class carriage, and took a second-class ticket, and left his card with the station-keeper, desiring him to inform the directors that he should never travel by first class on their lines until the present exorbitant fares were reduced. The Hull paper added that several noblemen and gentlemen

Lord Worsley deserves well of the public for this admonition; but he would have deserved better had he in his place in the House of Commons raised his voice against that most scandalous of jobs by which the Monarch is entitled to exact these exorbitant fares from the passengers to the north, of which his Lordship so justly complains, when an appropriate opportunity was presented, on Mr. Ellice laying the report of the Committee on the subject before the House. But Lord Worsley is the only one of a host of assailants.

ON THIS DAY

September 24, 1846

The mid-19th century saw the great expansion of the railways and with it the dubious activities of speculators and share pushers. The Turnes missed no opportunity of denouncing them, in particular George Hudson, the Raihway King (1800-71).

The Monarch finds that his easy victories in the House of Commons have not done all for him that he could have wished; that people will grumble even though fleeced by act of Parliament. He has not read much, but he has evidently read that part of our English history in which we are told in what way his predecessors drew tooth after tooth from the Jews in order to frighten them into compli-ance with demands for money. The papers published in all parts of the country are filled with communications from correspondents indignant at the system of torture resorted to on the King's lines, in order to drive passengers to the first class fares. In the Chronicle of Wednesday last, a Scarborough correspondent, who had proceeded from Scarborough to York, says, "It was an open carriage all the way to York. I need say no more as to its being an open carriage, yet in reality it was not fit for the conveyance of beasts. The sufferings-therein I will not attempt to describe, yet I must say that every possible torture has been resorted to".

"Oh that mine enemy had written a book."
The King has not written a book, but he has spoken a speech at York. The meeting on Monday last, at which that speech was delivered, was of a company called the "York and Newcastle," a new name for old lines, for the King announced, "that what was formerly known as the 'Great North of England' and the 'Newcastle and Darlington' lines, would in future be entitled the 'York and Newcastle

The changes of the names of certain famous streets in Marylebone are not more frequent than the changes of the names of certain lines. Would that they emulated the Marylebone streets in changing their practices with their

But I must drop the King, and take leave of your readers for the present. Combill Sent 17 CATO



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How last week's BBC row was saved from farce

Sir Christopher opens his scoring account

SNODDY

TO THE casual eye. last week's "rebellion" by BBC journalists may seem like a trivial manifestation which received too much attention by a media-obsessed media. After all, it is a truism that journalists who are specialists in the chronicling of change usually become resistant when confronted with it themselves. Certainly, the former BBC journalist Polly Toynbee, speaking at the Royal Television Society's Cambridge convention at the weekend, seemed unimpressed by the spat, even though the issue greatly enlivened the proceedings.

The reality is that what happens to the BBC news and current affairs machine, by far the largest pool of television news journalism in the UK and one of the largest in the world, is of importance to those who fund it - the licence payers and viewers.

If the news is going to become more homogenised, if the voice of editors is going to be muted and programmes become less indi-vidualistic as a result, then there is a considerable public interest.

Until the row broke out and received media attention, there was going to be a super commissioning editor with money extracted from all the programme budgets and responsible for com-missioning features across all BBC radio and television. The aim was the apparently reasonable one of trying to avoid

duplication and waste. The reality would almost certainly have been a massive degree of centralisation, uniformity of programming and the birth of a new bureaucracy. Four executive editors, aided by associate editors, would have had enormous centralising power. The autonomy of editors, who were given, in effect, ten days to apply for downgraded versions of their old jobs, would have been undermined.

For a while the row was going forward in a familiar BBC way. There had been "misunderstandings", obviously simulta-neously arrived at by the 700 or so iournalists involved. Then we were into an Alice in Wonderland world of defining words how you want to. Tony Hall, the chief executive of BBC News, announced gravely that if people didn't like being called associate editors, why, they could be called editors again - as if somehow that solved

Two developments rescued the situation from farce. One was the intervention of Sir Christopher Bland, the Chairman of the BBC governors who, like the other governors — whose job it is to represent the public found out about the details of the plan from the newspapers. The underlying philosophy — preventing individual programmes from competing against each other for the same interviewees and items was understood and is eminently sensible.

Sir Christopher's decision to halt the proceedings for further consultation and consideration at a governors' meeting in October was right. Sir Christopher, noted for his independence of mind and impatience with the folly of others, was an excellent choice as BBC Chairman. Until now, however, he has been a bit like a topclass, highly priced soccer striker who on transfer has unaccountably failed to score any goals for his new club. A cracking performance after the drought is all the

The second important development came when a group of senior editors of flagship BBC programmes took upon themselves the responsibility of working out a compromise to get the BBC management off

the hook on which they had impaled themselves. Although there is still a lot of huffing and puffing and protocol to be endured, plus worrying away at the meaning of words, the compro-mise option is now clear. It would be the downgrading of the feature commissioner to a co-ordinating role, and editors would remain editors — and not merely in name — but in the control of budgets and staff. Executive editors would have a useful role to

play alongside editors, but not ostentatiously atop them, in order to avoid waste and unnecessary duplication. It has the makings of a sensible deal and should be embraced by the BBC governors next month.

SUCH agreement should, however, be the beginning of a new relationship between the BBC and its staff. There will be the inevitable temptation to put the events of last week down to a lack of adequate communication, just as the Conservative Party forever blamed poor communication rather than the inadequacy of the message for sleepwalking into electoral disaster.

It really is time that the BBC realises that its staff is its greatest asset - probably its only asset - apart from an institutional history and expectation in the public mind. and access to scarce airwaves.

The BBC has become notorious for never aying sorry, regarding its staff as something akin to an enemy to be subdued, and trying to shoehorn them into a narrow definition of the digital future.

Sir Christopher could score a second goal by realising that there are many more urgent issues to be dealt with at the BBC on how staff are treated than whether associate editors are called editors or not.

Under the influence

The reshaped Lynne Franks PR has a new blueprint, reports Belinda Archer

hould you find yourself buying the Spice Girls' next single, your decision to purchase will have been affected by an array of influences beyond the simple fact that you like its catchy tune.

Your choice may have been shaped by the recommendations of friends and family, the opinion of a television presenter, a club DJ or even a teacher (if school still applies). Alternatively, you could have heard that a psychologist claims Spice Girl music makes you happy, or that a boffin from the Royal College of Music believes the band produces high-quality songs. The increasingly complex forces at work behind what

makes a consumer buy a product or service is the central plank to the new-look Lynne Franks PR, the quintessentially 1980s public relations firm which was relaunched and rebranded as Life PR on Monday.

The agency, which is now marketing itself on a more robust, businesslike platform than the "Ab Fab" glitz of before, believes that old-style "opinion formers", such as prominent journalists or experts in the given field, have been superseded by a far more wide-ranging, less

easily identifiable brigade of individuals or organisations, dubbed the

These vary from client to client, and need to be clearly identified for any company to craft an effective communications programme, the agency claims. In short, influencing the influencers is the new blueprint for effective PR and marketing. Samantha Royston, the chief execu-

tive of the reshaped agency, explains: There has been a massive shift in the past four to five years in the way consumers are influenced. If companies presume they know who those influencers are, and do not identify them correctly, they are in danger of missing one of the most powerful routes to communicating with their target audience."

Ms Royston cites the health sector as a prime example. Here, the traditional opinion formers used to be GPs and pharmacists, but official data now shows that people are visiting their

doctors less frequently, and there is a detectable drive towards self-medication which has resulted directly from other influencing factors. These include healthfood stores, advice columns in newspapers and magazines, "experts" on GMTV, the Internet. sports centres and even personal fitness instructors.

To investigate who and what might be shaping the opinions of a target audience. Life has set up a unit called the "I", short for influence. The unit begins by compiling an exhaustive list of anyone or anything that might have an impact — known as the Influencer Tree. This is developed by means of an

initial brainstorming session with the clien to identify who the company thinks most influences its audience. In the case of Lynne Franks PR's Vidal Sassoon, for example, three of these primary influencers might be a hairdresser. a fashion designer and a make-up artist. These groups are then quizzed over who influences them. Life then conducts a full vox pop with relevant consumers to ascer-tain what they think makes them buy a particular brand. Then the agency runs

Lynne Franks, top, and

a trawl of the media to see what the relevant journalists are writing about and what they are being

The final list of up to 50 Influencers are given scores on six criteria: the number of consumers they would be able to reach, their ability to influence other Influencers, how much it would cost the company to get them to endorse their product and how accessible they would be, whether they would be open to persuasion to help to influence the target market, their fit with the company's brand and their consumer appeal.

These scores are combined and each Influencer is given a ranking to form an Influencer Index. The agency finally draws up a marketing strategy based on targeting, say, the top-ten-scoring influencers, taking into consideration the client company's marketing bud-

The I has just signed up its first client in the shape of the European Space Agency, a body which tackles govern-



Magazines can have more influence on consumers than specialist opinion

ments that are no longer investing sufficiently in science and space research. Ms Royston says that before Life's involvement, the organisation spent much of its time focusing on supposedly influential science academics connected with the relevant Euro government ministers. However, a full influencer audit by Life could reveal that the ESA has been missing a trick.

possible that Steven Spielberg will rank higher on the list of top-ten influencers than, say, the Professor of Physics at Imperial College, London." she says. The ESA could then invite Spielberg to sponsor one of its rockets

or use one in his movies. But is this process really new? Cynics might suggest that pinpointing target markets and assessing who they are influenced by is basic marketing practice. Bridget Brown, a tutor in PR at the leading Bournemouth & Poole College, voices typical suspicions when

she says: "PR involves assessing who your different publics are. It is fundamental to talk about identifying your audience and then working out who influences them."

But Ms Royston feroclously denies that Life's new methodology amounts to little more than window-dressing or the elaborate repackaging of a fundamental marketing process by an agen-cy that, after all, made its name in showbiz and fashlon PR. "Most companies understand who their audience is, but little time is spent on the audiences who influence their audience. We are taking a crucial step ; back," she retaliates.

Tilly Sampson, the Life director who runs the I, makes another key point. This process acts as a safety net and provides objective confirmation on whether it is worth spending time and money pursuing a certain route. Given that a lot of marketing is not science, it's nice to have a tried and tested formula to rely on for once."

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COLD PROGRAM

Peter Foster asks if editors do enough to ensure foreign correspondents are prepared to face the worst

How to survive a war zone

The Land Rover braked hard and came nose to nose with a military truck that filled the width of the narrow country track. Even before our vehicle had stopped, men wearing combat jackets and balaclavas were thumping on the windows, screaming hysterically: "Get out of the truck! Out! Out! Get

the f out."

The muzzle of an AK47 assault rifle came through the window and we were manhandled face-down on to a grass verge: "Get the food down," yelled a voice very close behind me. Someone was firing rounds into the trees. Then everything went black. "Up! Move! Go!", and we

were marching in a stumbling crocodile, twisting right and left before being thrust, spread-eagled, to the ground again. The drawstring of a black hood was tight around my neck and there was now complete silence as we lay waiting for the unknown,

Mercifully, the end, when it came, was not too grisly: 20 minutes after the ambush began, both attackers and victims were clutching mugs of tea and warming themselves around the fireplace of a 13th-century manor house in darkest Somerset. Here Paul Rees, a former Royal Marine Commando, began addressing a group of shaky-looking BBC journalists about the experience. Everyone had their worst moment: the feeling of claustrophobia as the hood was put over their head. the disorientating march, the long wait face-down in wet grass wondering what would appen next.

Among the group were BBC correspondents Jeremy Vine, Fergus Walsh, Mike Baker, and a cameraman and producer from the BBC Delhi bureau who had flown to England especially for the course. Vine starts work as Southern Africa correspondent in October and will be living in Johannesburg, where "carjackings" have become increasingly common. Baker, a former foreign affairs journalist, reinforces the Moscow

The course is run by Centurion Risk Assessment Services, a company set up and staffed by former Royal Marines to teach civilians how to cope with hostile environhow to placate drunken soldiers at checkpoints, distinguishing between mortar and shellfire, and even how to check if the safety catch of an AK47 is on or off.

Journalists are shown how high-velocity rifle ounds penetrate car doors and brick walls: any moviestyle fantasies about taking cover behind such flimsy defences are quickly removed. A plastic water drum is used to demonstrate what happens when a bullet passes through the human body. Journalists also learn how to patch up gunshot and shrapnel wounds until professional help arrives.

community has long recognised the value of such training, newspaper editors have peen reluctant to follow, de-pite the evident dangers of reporting from areas of conflict. According to the Interna-tional Federation of Journalists in Brussels, more than 200 journalists have been killed since 1991 while operating in war zones. The largest number of deaths was in

While the broadcasting







Shock tactics: journalists on the survival course are ambushed, blindfolded and marched away to the sound of gunshots and violent threats

former Yugoslavia, where 77 journalists have died since 1991, followed by Algeria, with 70 deaths since 1993, Rwanda with 48 and the remainder in Chechnya.

However, there are some signs that newspapers may be waking up to their responsibil-BBC, ITN and Reuters who have traditionally led the way in safety training. Later this month, the London Press Club will host a seminar organised by the Freedom Forum in conjunction with the NUJ and BBC Safety to "examine why the newspaper industry has dragged its heels over the issue of training and protecting

mong the speakers are Peter Preston. former Editor of The Guardian, Quentin Peel, foreign editor on the Financial Times. Richard Sambrook, head of BBC newsgathering and Robert Fox. The Daily Telegraph's long-serving foreign correspondent. Peel admits that safety training for FT correspondents is non-existent. His newspaper is no exception: all the national newspapers confirmed that they did not give specific training for war zones. For most, safety protection is limited to a few ill-fitting flakjackets, although the TeleLand Rover for Bosnia.

Mr Peel, whose postings have included South Africa Moscow, agrees that newspapers have been slack on safety training: "There has been a degree of gentlemanly amateurism in the way that people have covered war zones. thing that needs to be looked

Many foreign editors argue,

however, that training courses are unnecessary because only experienced correspondents are sent into dangerous situations. Graham Paierson, foreign of The editor Times, says: "In war zones or dangerous areas we use experienced correspondents. In

recent conflicts in Africa or the Balkans we have tended to use people with military training and always emphasise that personal salety is more important than the

Paterson has two ex-servicemen as part of his foreign team. Sam Kiley, Africa correspondent, is a former Gurkha officer, and Anthony Loyd, who has reported from Albania and Bosnia, served with The Royal Green Jackets. Loyd recently made headlines graph did buy an armoured

of his own when he drove the Times Volvo on a special forces rescue mission to save 22 children from an orphanage in Albania. Tom McGhie, foreign editor of The Express, also said training was unnecessary because inexperienced journalists were not sent to war

Experienced reporters say that safety depends most on reacting appropriately to different types of dangerous situation. 'One

Andrew Haughton, executive producer at Sky News, formershould try ly a field producer for the Australian to cover a Network 9, coverstory, not ing Nicaragua, El Salvador and Beibecome rut, says: "Every conflict is different. the story but one should try to cover a story, not

become it. Displaying overt guerrilla training is probably not the salest way to hehave. I always helieved in wearing a red checked shirt so that it was clear I was not armed. I think Martin Bell wore his white suit for the same réason."

However, in widespread and drawn-out conflicts such as Bosnia and parts of Africa, the need for relief reporters drew in less experienced hands. For many, it was their first real war, although some had covered Northern Ireland. by war correspondents. "I One correspondent with 20 wouldn't do what journalists years on Fleet Street was sent do," he says, "at least when you are part of the military to Bosnia by his foreign desk and learnt the hard way. He you have some form of intelliarrived in the Croatian port of gence and knowledge about the situation on the battlefield. Split and hired the only car available - a gleaming Audi Journalists are often left in the 80 worth £13,000. dark. Some training is better

held up while driving in central Bosnia by a bored, gun-toting soldier who, not satisfied with two packets of cigarettes, returned with friends in the middle of the night and stole the car. Like many others, the reporter fell on the mercies of the BBC and borrowed a flak jacket from Kate Adie: The next time he covered Bosnia, he hired a Lada Niva like everyone else.

Those correspondents who have attended training courses have found them valuable and, at times, life-saving. Robert Moore, diplomatic editor at ITN who has reported from Bosnia and the Middle East, says: "Lots of people mock these courses but most journalists would argue that the first-aid elements have saved lives in the past. When David Chater was shot in the stornach in Vukovar, those with him said their first-aid training had saved his life."

Rees, who served in the Palklands and in Cambodia and now runs Centurion safety courses full-time, is in no doubt about the dangers faced

Managing the mood of the nation

Raymond Snoddy hears predictions for the future

The top executives of uct focus to customer fo-the British television cus as other industries industry could be forgiven for reaching for the tranquillisers this week after their trip to the biennial Royal Television Society convention in Cambridge They were assaulted first

by warnings that society has changed so much in recent years that the old notion of an audience waiting to watch whatever broadcasters chose to offer has gone for ever. The audience is working longer hours, shopping at all sorts of strange times and increasingly seeking entertainment that suits its mood of the moment wherever such entertainment can be found. Martin Hayward of BBH Futures, part

of the BBH advertising and marketing group, said that the old classifications and stereotypes no longer worked. It was unclear what the weekend was any more, never mind what constituted a household or a housewife.

Nearly 60 per cent of employees did some work on a Saturday, and 40 per cent did some work on a Sunday. Indeed, free time had decreased by 14 per cent for women working full-time, and by 5 per cent for men working full-time. No less than 62 per cent of all adults believed there was never enough time to get things done.

With increased pressure on time, there were sewer common events both in families and across society although the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, was an obvious exception.

Some 60 per cent of people thought that "the family eats together less often than it used to", in 1991.

Tales of journalistic derring-

do should not soften the fact

that journalists, like the BBC's

John Schofield in Bosnia, do

get killed on the job. As Jeremy Vine heads for South Africa,

he is grateful that his bosses

have seen fit to train him. For

some editors, health and safe-

ty still conjures up ideas of

goggles and hard hats. But the law is clear. Under the 1974

Act, a newspaper editor has as

much duty to safeguard his

employees as a factory owner.

People were also no longer acting in accordance with their age or class, and seemed to want to be different things at different

As a result, Mr Hayward said, broadcasters would have to transform themselves from "schedule managers to mood managers". They would also have to move quickly from "prodcus" as other industries have had to do.

Broadcasters had hardly had time to absorb their new role as mood managers of the nation when they were battered by the latest wave of new technology. Craig Mundie, a senior vice-president of Microsoft. the ambitious media and software group, was about to launch a second-genera-tion box which can handle the Internet on the tele-

vision set. The box, to be launched America next month by Microsoft's new acquisition Web TV, will sell for \$300. It is aimed at the 60 per cent or so of the American population who do not have home comput-

ers. The UK will

not be far be-

British Interac-

tive Broadcast-

things in the UK

BiB, which also

demonstrated at

Cambridge, is a

made up of BT.

consortium

pians to

'It is unclear what the weekend is any more'

BSkyB (a group in which News International, owner of The Times, has a 40 per cent stake), Matsushita and Midland Bank. The planned BiB boxes, which will go on sale at a subsidised price of £199, will be able to handle the Internet while enabling viewers to navigate what is in effect a shopping mall on the television screen. By clicking on a slightly expanded

channel selector, viewers will be able to buy a CD or pay a credit-card bill by transferring from their bank accounts - all on

For good measure, the British electronics company Sneli & Wilcox demonstrated a sobox" which can project a perfect digital picture of a movie on a 40ft screen. Naturally it can also project the Internet.

Broadcasters.can see all too clearly that in future they will not only have to compete with each other for ratings in a climate of wayward viewing habits, but also to compete with an ever-increasing range of activity on the small screen.

Unease hardens into a new code

A PERIOD of profound soul-searching by editors of Britain's national newspapers will end tomorrow when the Press Complaints Commission announces that its journalists' code of practice has been radically overhauled. There will be significant amendments to the clauses dealing with privacy, harassment, intrusion into grief or shock, interviewing and photographing children, and the definition of "public

So within four weeks of her death in Paris, the late Diana, Princess of Wales, has won a posthumous victory that she would never have achieved while she was alive. The amended code, drawn up by a panel of national and regional editors, will almost certainly prohibit the publication of pictures of Princes William and Harry without their consent until they are 21 (an injunction which has been observed for the past two years without being specified in the code).

There were many paradoxes in the life of the Princess, not least of which was her love-hate relationship with newspapers and magazines. She courted and lunched with



the causes she cherished, she courted the cameras too. One paper she read was the Daily Mail. She rang Richard Kay. its royal reporter and also a friend, only five hours before the crash in Paris and spoke to him for 20 minutes. She often phoned Paul Dacre. Editor of the Daily Mail, at home or in the office. The great majority of the stories we wrote about the Princess she gave us herself," he said in The Guardian last week.

Yet many of the editors she courted could not resist temptation when offered pictures snatched by the paparazzi who hunted her around the world and who eventually hunted her to Paris and her death. That is why the soulsearching has almost certainly been tinged with a sense of guilt, why all the tabloids have announced that they will certainly not disturb the two

Princes, and why more compassion is being urged for and already shown to - the Prince of Wales.

Celebrity stalking had turned into a lucrative game with virtual victims who were expected to show no pain, The Guardian declared. Most sentient journalists had accepted that the culture of intrusion had spread too far. too fast. "There is now a guilty had collectively edged beyond reasonable bounds."

As The Mirror acknowledged in an editorial after the funeral oration by Earl Spencer, newspapers and magazines, television and radio shared an "almost obsessive" fascination with the Princess, as did readers, viewers and listeners: "Earl Spencer said she was hunted and in the end he was right." According to The Sun. the earl's attack on the press would force every reflect deeply on their conduct: "The Sun has no intention of carrying photographs which invade the privacy of Princes William and Harry." Among the tabloids, the

most prominent exponent of a tighter code of practice has been Richard Addis, Editor of The Express. Among his pronosals are that no one under is should be subject to any form of invasive press coverage unless with the consent of a guardian or undeniably in the public interest, and that pictures should not be taken of people when they are in private or when they might reasonably believe themselves to be unobserved, unless in the public interest. Encouraged by Lord

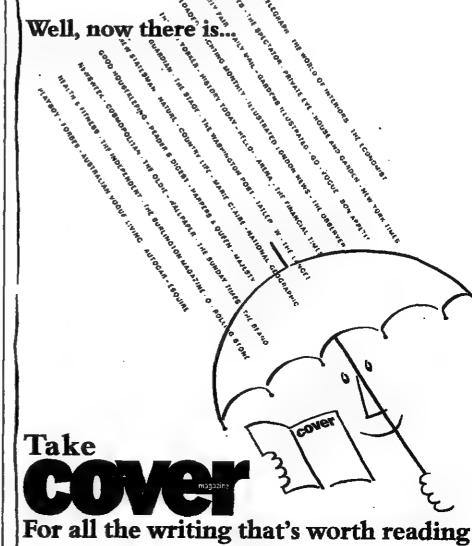
Wakeham, the chairman of the PCC, who has consulted every national editor, editors have acted with speed against a background of rising clamour outside the newspaper industry for a new law of privacy. Alan Rusbridger, Editor of *The Guardian*, is so far a lonely voice pointing out from the wilderness that most editors remain in "blissful ienorance" that we are effectively on the verge of having a privacy law anyway under

Convention on Human Rights and the 1997 Harassment Act. "By the time a few irritable

and illiberal judges have be-gun to play around with piecemeal bits of legislation, it seems quite probable that the very journalists currently inng against a privacy law will be begging for one --a sensible, considered, balanced one," he argued last week in The Daily Telegraph. Meanwhile, the case for selfregulation will be given a stiff shot in the arm tomorrow. Another paradox about the

days since the Princess's death is that even as newspapers were being denounced, so readers were flocking to buy them, with the broadsheets in particular winning significant sales increases On Monday, September I, an estimated 3.7 million extra national newspapers were bought, and an extra 2.8 million on the Sunday after the funeral. As the week developed the Daily Mail, The Mail on Sunday, The Times, The Sunday Times and The Guardian achieved new sales records as they captured the mood of the

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Murder charge nurse to be flogged

■ A British nurse was sentenced to 500 lashes and eight years in jail by a Saudi court for being an accessory to the murder of a colleague. This raised the prospect that her friend had been convicted of murder, which carries a mandatory death penalty.

The sentence on Lucille McLauchlan was immediately condemned by her family, the Government and human rights groups. Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, said that he was deeply disturbed at the sentence, which was "wholly unacceptable in a modern world".....Pages 1. 2, 3

Trimble refuses Adam's hand

Ulster Unionist Party leaders made history by sitting at the same conference table as Sinn Fein for the first time but they emphatically rejected what Gerry Adams called his "hand of friendship"...

Tory women lists

Local Tory parties could be forced for the first time to put women on their shortlists when choosing parliamentary candidates under radical plans being considered by William Hague. There will not be all-women lists Page 1

Stowaway's escape

A stowaway who leapt overboard after being caught on a banana boat from the Bahamas was found hiding on a tiny island in the Bristol Channel Page 5

Genetic testing

Companies which offer genetic tests directly to the public could be blacklisted if they fail to follow proper procedures Page 6 Dyslexia damages

An young woman who left school

with a reading age of seven won damages of more than £45,000 from the local authority that failed to diagnose that she had dyslecia....Page 7 Pay to read

Libraries must consider charges to pay for the services that will meet the needs of the next century. The number of books borrowed has fallen by 19 per cent in the past ten yearsPage 8

Cabinet pay row

The Cabinet pay dispute burst into the open as two senior ministers publicly countered suggestions that they had agreed to give up a £16,500 increase Page 9

Ashdown's risk

Paddy Ashdown will today urge his party not to tie his hands over further links with Labour as he warns that the Liberal Democrats will have to take risks Page 10

Wings of peace

A falcon is doing more to bring Israelis and Palestinians together than any diplomatic negotiators. Environmentalists from both sides have set up a new joint body to protect wildlife Page 11 Beef ban setback

The drive to persuade Europe to lift its beef ban suffered a setback when the European Commission reported the illegal presence of

British beef in Germany Page 12 Cook angers US Robin Cook, the Foreign Secre-

tary, got into an ugly spat with a right-wing American senator after insisting that Washington should pay its UN debt .. Page 14 Revenge on Clinton President Clinton suffered the

first instalment in the revenge of Harold Ickes, the sacked senior aide whose copious notes may hold the key to irregular White House fundraising Page 15

Jungle firefighters The haze overhanging much of South-East Asia reached new danger levels as 2,000 Malaysian firemen prepared to leave for Indonesia to help tackle the jungle Page 15

The fastest man on earth

Squadron Leader Andy Green, who has flown Phantoms for the last six years, was preparing in Nevada for an assault on the world land speed record in Thrust, an 850 mph car powered by Rolls-Royce Spey jet engines. But after a run of 690 mph the car developed computer problems and the attempt on the offical record was once again postponed..... Page 13

The Duke of York talking to children at the Westfield Independent School during a visit to Newcastle upon Tyne yesterday

have been told to act immediately on a report by Price Waterhouse that will call for the London Underground to be broken into three or four sections... ...Page 27

BUSINESS

Telecom: Don Cruickshank, the regulator that British Telecom loves to hate, said he would not seek a second termPage 27

Virgin: Richard Branson, who has always missed out on the battle to win a major television licence, has decided to try to establish a significant presence in international programme productionPage 27

Markets: The FT-SE 100 fell 48.2 to 5027.5. Sterling rose from 100.8 to 101.4 after a rise from \$1.6031 to \$1.6127 and from DM2.8750 to

Golf: Miguel Angel Martin has ended his dispute with Europe's Ryder Cup committee over his exclusion from the team to meet the United States ...

SPORT

Rugby union: Pontypridd will host the Heineken Cup game against Brive at Sardis Road on Saturday knowing that their every action will be under the microscope after the brawl two weeks agoPage 52 Tennie: Greg Rusedski, the Great Britain No I, beat Todd Wood-

round of the Compaq Grand Slam Cup in Munich..... Page 46 Football: Five years ago, Shay Given could be found in Co Donegal, helping out in the family market gardening business. Now he is in goal for Newcastle Page 49

bridge, of Australia, in the first

Father figure: The Canadian film

ARTS

director Atom Egoyan says had he known he was going to have a child, he might never have embarked upon his new film. The Sweet Hereafter....

Electric Zoe: Benedic: Nightingale is riveted by Zoe Wanamaker's hauntingly contemporary performance in Electra

Rising star: By day 23-year-old Kara Miller works in advertising; but in her own time she writes plays, stages them through her own company, and sometimes acts ..Page 18

Sure shot: Don McCullin has taken intrusive photographs in the world's war zones — but a new exhibition confirms that his can be

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

Geoff Brown checks

out the special effects of

Robert Zemeckis's sci-

fi spectacular, Contact

Michael Portillo on the

Tory party, Malcolm

Vonnegut's last work

land, Moray Firth, Argyll: log and

Bradbury on Kurt

FILMS

BOOKS

FEATURES

Split decision: The audience, faced with an invitation to be sexy, split into those who bolted and those who tried their best. John Lloyd at a holistic festival Page 17 Nigella Lawson: On shameless selfpublicity, Labour's pay poser, the age of enjoyment and the BBC's

Embroidery theme: Try delicate decoration for a look that is sweet and sharp...

MEDIA

No Franks: Is it really the end of the Ab Fab era for Lynne Franks PR? asks Belinda Archer....... Page 24 Code of honour: How newspaper editors have agreed a new code of

HONES Swinging place: The Ryder Cup moves buyers to Spain Page 43

THE PAPERS

The Nobel Peace Prize has always been controversial. In 1979 it was awarded to Mother Teresa; now the Labour Government has nominated Diana, Princess of Wales. But with all due respect to the late princess, her candidature is a step too far. She ran no real risks and made no real sacrifices: she cannot be compared to Arafat, Mandela or Kissinger, let alone Mother Teresa. It would be better not to award the prize at all - La Repubblica, Rome

RADIO & TV

Preview: Robbie Coltrane leads an assault on Robert Louis Stevenson The Ebb-Tide (ITV. 9pm). Review. John Diamond on the rebirth of the Pages 50:5

OPINION

The unreformed UN

Britain has a reputation to live to to as a serious and knowledge ble operator in this floundering set of institutions. Unless the UN modernises, Mr Cook rightly said it "will lose its legitimacy and its effectiveness".....

The gene theme

Faulty genes have acquired the character of Blind Pugh's Black Spot: not only do they foretell a death, but they do so with a terrible ... Page 24 inevitability...

Doves and hawks

At a time when political tensions between Israelis and Palestinians are at their worst, a small but significant attempt to overcome mistrust and hatred is being made by omithologists... .. Page 21

SIMON JENKINS

COLUMNS

We take cream with our scones, Jerusalem with our Proms and Liberals with our politics. They are nanny's comfy toy. In September they get a hug.... MICHAEL GOVE

For a Conservative to believe in classlessness is like a panther living on vegetation - so contrary to nature that it will lead to extinction... ... Page 20

ALAN COREN

The Mint wants to get to the bottom of my sofa, because it wants to get to the bottom of a mystery involving what might be lying on the bottom of my sofa Page 20 PETER RIDDELL

Labour wants the Lib Dems to behave like loyal Government backbenchers and restrain their criticisms, while the Lib Dems want to retain all the freedoms of opposition. Both are wrong Page 19 OBINIARIES

Diana Duchess of Newcastle, jockcy; David Matthews, plastic surgeon; Paul Newman, architect; Robert Pinget, French novelist and

playwright.....

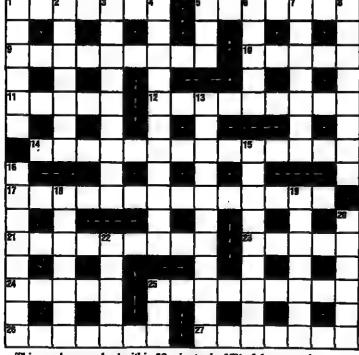
FIRE Rank-and-file and Tory choice: council "gerrymandering"; London

CALM

..... Page 23

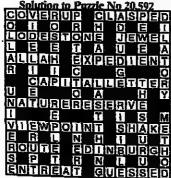
......Page 21

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,593



This puzzle was solved within 30 minutes by 37% of the competitors in the 1997 Times Crossword Championship.

- ACROSS
 I Greek character holds a lively
- 5 What constituencies have to charge? (7). 9 Averages close to number initially
- produced? Not at all! (2.2.5). 10 Street song that can lift one a little
- 11 Man installed after a vote, in principle (5). 12 One's dimes converted into cap-
- ital in US (3,6). Alloy in yacht used by Bond's superiors (9.5).
- 17 Where a key is being auctioned 21 Publication of novel, perhaps, not
- hard to arrange (9). 23 l see you are, so to speak pinching North's contract (5).
- Improvise telephone with no end of invention (3.2).



25 Continental artefacts found in steamer I can authenticate (9). 26 Herb's son is intermediary in negotiations (7).

27 Gratification as composer fin-ishes off Schubert symphony (7).

l It's used in Tripoli by a native (6). 2 Like a less attractive dog, one denying access to others? (7).

3 Parent entering reform school 4 Go after the rats? A bar member's put fellows inside (7,4). Characters following every part of

her conditions (3). 6 Italian fare supplement produces irritation, nothing more (5).

Not for profit. in a way (?). Measure introduced by firm to last in business? (4.4).

Struck before, splitting layers into fragments (11). 15 Infantry officer, for example encountered carrying second flag

16 Gentleman on horse who's re-warded with silver? (6-2).

18 Old woman's encouragement to take a chance (7). 19 Free-lance vet wasting little time in isolated country area (7). 20 Playwright boosted by uplifting atmosphere in house (6).

22 Like a future monarch, perhaps one instructed soundly (5). 25 Fourth of March issue number run off (3).

Times Two Crossword, page 52

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

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☐ General: Fog should largely disperse by mid-morning and then all places will be mostly dry, warm and sunny. Areas to the east of the Pennines may be cloudler but should

also have some sunshine leter.

London, SE England, Central S Li London, SE England, Central S England, Midiands, Channel Islee, SW England, Wales, NW England, Lakes, Cent N England: early fog clearing, then dry and sunny. Winds light easterly. Warm. Max 23C (73F).

Least Anglis, E England, NE England: cloudy at times, bright or sunny periods developing. Winds light suriny periods developing. Winds light easterly. Werm. Max 20C (68F). ☐ Isle of Man, Borders, Edinburgh and Dundee, SW Scotland, Glas-gow, Cent Highlands, NE Scot-

frost at first, then dry and sunny. Winds easterly, Max 19C (68F). ☐ Aberdeen coast: Cloudy, becoming bright or surny Inland. Wind light southeast. Max 19C (66F).
☐ NW Scotland, Northern Ireland: dry, sunny perioda, clouding over in west later. Winds light southeast. Max 21C (70F). ☐ Orioney, Shetlend: sunny periods. Max 17C (63F).
☐ Republic of Ireland: dry with

surmy periods, the sunshine hazy in the West. Winds moderate south-easterly. Warm. Max 20C (68F). Outlook: cloud and patchy rain in northern Scotland, elsewhere staying

ARGUND BRITAIN

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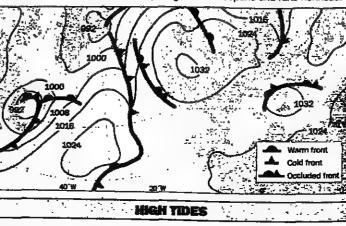
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HIGHEST & LOWEST Yesterday: Highest day temp: Lee-on-the-Solent, Hampohre, 23F (73F); lowest day max: Tynamouth North Tyneside, 13C (55F); highest reintalt; no appreciable reintall highest sunetime: Folkestone, Kerli



INSIDE SECTION **TODAY**



BUSINESS

How to become a Richer guru and actually help clients PAGE 31



CREME

Career path that led to a job in television PAGE 40



SPORT

Lynne Truss sees the men of Europe bond at Valderrama PAGE 50

TELEVISION AND RADIO PAGES 50, 51

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 24 1997

Blair to back break-up of Tube before sell-off



Telecoms

regulator

decides

to quit

BY ERIC REGULY DON CRUICKSHANK,

the regulator that British Telecom loves to hate,

yesterday said he would

not seek a second term as

Director-General of Tele-

communications, and

urged the Government to

replace him with a commission instead of another

Mr Cruickshank, 55,

said he was under no pressure from the Govern-

ment to step down. "I

decided last Christmas

that I would not seek a

second term. Five years as

a full-time regulator is

He said he has no full-

time job prospects, but it

has been offered a consul-

tancy role on the Govern-

ment's education and public access taskforce.

which examines ways to

connect schools to the in-

Mr Cruickshank, whose

formation superhighway.

salary is £126,400, is con-

sidered the toughest of the

utility regulators. He

should be replaced by a

commission, under the

theory that several points

of view are better than one.

This, he believes, would

speed up the decision-

making process and make

regulation more transpar-

ent and more accountable

Commentary, page 29

utility regulators

individual regulator.

BY ARTHUR LEATHURY TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

TONY BLAIR is to back a controversial recommendation to privatise the London Underground by splitting it into as many as four parts and selling up to 51 per cent of the

The move, a U-turn from Labour's pre-election stance, is to follow a report to be submitted next week by Price Waterhouse, the accountants, to John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, and Geoffrey Robinson, the Paymaster General. Mr Blair is understood to be strongly backing moves to draw up

introduced in advance of the legislation required to sell off the tube for up to £1.2 billion.

The legislation to push through a sell-off would not be passed until at least 1999, making the sale unlikely before 2001. Ministers concede that the system cannot be allowed to crumble over the next three years and say that investment is a priority.

The Price Waterhouse report, which ministers ordered to be completed urgently in July, is understood to favour giving separate companies ownership both of infrastructure and operation on several lines, although the network would remain under the

Mr Prescott has been told that the Treasury is prepared to look "sym-pathetically" at plans to make a single payment to the Tube system next year to kick-start a huge investment programme. The one-off subsidy to help London Underground as it faces escalating costs or the Jubilee Line extension, could be offset partly by new charges on parking and motoring in London.

Mr Prescott is keen to move quickly after clear indications from business that it would back strongly any proposals to sell a majority stake in the business, which has an

investment backlog of some £1.5 billion. Railtrack, Virgin Trains. Stagecoach and National Express are among the groups interested in

buying a stake in the network.

Mr Prescott will receive a report from London's business community next week outlining support for proposals to sell part of the system. The report from London First will make clear that business supports either a system of vertical integramajority stake in up to four sections. or to have separate, long-term franchises of up to 30 years, for

operation and infrastructure. The report will emphasise that the

investment backlog, of some £750 million a year for five years, is double what is currenty affordable. Both the London First and Price Waterhouse reports are understood to dismiss the current Private Finance Initiative as too cumbersome to attract business interest in such a

large sell-off. Senior government figures conceded yesterday that only a substantial upfront subsidy would make the eventual sell-off palatable to the business community and to the traditional wing of the Labour Party, which has voiced opposition to privatisation of the Underground.

LONDON MONEY

London close \$321.25 (\$321,05)

Virgin in joint TV venture with CBS

BY RAYMOND SNODDY MEDIA EDITOR

RICHARD BRANSON, the Virgin boss who has always missed out in the battle for a major television licence in the UK, is to attempt to establish a significant presence in international programme production.

Virgin, which has set up a new international production and distribution arm, Virgin Century Television, yesterday with CBS Broadcast Interna-

Under the deal both companies will have first look at each other's ideas and programme formats and events. Virgin is attractive to a US of its youthful image and feel for younger markets. The UK company already has a 50 per cent interest in an indepen-dent production company called Rapido.

Mr Branson said yesterday: This venture represents our initial entry into international

television. Jeremy Fox, who led Virgin's ultimately unsuccessful bid for the Channel 5 licence in the UK, will run Virgin Century Television and manage the new partnership with Rainer Siek, president of CBS Broad-

cast International. Mr Fox said yesterday he was already talking to banks to raise a significant fund for investing in production and rights for programme distribution around the world.

Virgin does not exclude moving on to owning channels

Brown says his tough line will hold down inflation

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

GORDON BROWN insisted yesterday that he was "optimistic" about the outlook for the economy despite the "threat" posed to inflation by strong consumer spending.

The Chancellor told delegates at the International Monetary Fund meeting in Hong Kong that although the Government had inherited an economy in danger of overheating "we are now on course to get the economy back on track next year".

Mr Brown's comments came as revised GDP figures showed the economy was growing at its fastest rate since 1989, heightening speculation that the Bank of England will raise interest rates again in November. Second-quarter GDP increased by an annual rate of 3.5 per cent, compared with a previousrimate of 3.4 per cent.

Separate balance of payments data showed Britain's current account in surplus for the third consecutive quarter the best performance since 1985.

Mr Brown signalled in his IMF speech that he will continue to maintain a tough line on inflation by holding down public spending and pursuing a "vigilant" monetary policy. He expressed some concern about the impact of the strong pound on industry but insisted that business would benefit more from an end to the "stop-go instability of the past".

"I want the British economy to enjoy the far greater underlying strength that comes from a base of high levels of growth and employment alongside low and stable inflation," he said.

The Chancellor also emphasised that the Government would continue to help British businesses to prepare for the single currency, but gave no indication as to whether the Government intends to join EMU in the first round.

But Eddie George, who was also speaking in Hong Kong yesterday, again urged Europe to adopt a caurious approach in the run-up to monetary union. The Governor of the Bank of England said that he could not "understand the hurry" towards a single currency as there were real

economic risks to the project.

Mr George added, however, that it was important to plan assuming that EMU would proceed on time, and Britain would need to pursue parallel monetary and fiscal policies even if it did not join the single currency.

In London, the stronger than expected GDP data caused some jitters on the stock market. The FTSE 100 fell climbed two plennigs to DM2.8946, its highest level for three weeks. Sterling's trade-weighted index also rose 0.6 to 101.4. Economists said the Bank would be concerned by the revised GDP figures, which showed real disposable income surging by 3 per cent in the quarter — the biggest jump since 1979. level since early last year. The second-

But the savings ratio unexpectedly rose from 10.4 to 11.7 per cent, its highest quarter current account surplus totalled £888 million despite the strong pound. Andrew Cates, UK economist at UBS. said: "Just as the high savings ratio indicates that conditions in the economy are different to those that characterised the boom of the late 1980s, the lack of any deterioration in the current account balance also indicates that overheating fears have been overcooked.



Gordon Brown, pictured yesterday in Hong Kong, told the IMF that he would pursue a vigilant monetary policy

Car registration in August to end

By KEVIN EASON, MOTORING EDITOR

THE August registration plate change which causes chaos in Britain's motor industry is to be abolished. Gavin Strang. the Transport Minister, has confirmed that the one-month boom in which the motor industry makes a quarter of its annual sales will be replaced by a new system in which number plates will change twice yearly.

The decision was greeted with relief last night by motor industry executives who have been pressing for years for an end to the 30-year-old system. Chris McGowan, chief execu-

tive of the Retail Motor Industry Federation, said: This is most

welcome news. The industry could not go on with a ludicrous situation in which 25 per cent of sales were crammed into four weeks. It was no

good to the industry and no

good for the consumer." Whether the industry has seen its last August sale remains to be seen though Dr Strang is ready to consult the industry on the timing of the introduction for a new system. In letters to industry leaders, he promised that a firm decision would be made before the

end of the year. Sales of new cars hit a record 525,539 last month. worth an estimated £5 billion.

Greener says GrandMet | Wall Street poker merger still on schedule | king returns \$3bn

By Dominic Walsh

GUINNESS, the brewing and drinks company, was upbeat over the propects for its proposed £24 billion merger with Grand Metropolitan yesterday as it reported firsthalf profits ahead of market

Tony Greener, chairman, said pre-tax profits, which were 4 per cent higher at £372 million on turnover slightly down at £2.03 billion, would have come in 12 per cent higher at a constant exchange rate and discounting the effect of two share buybacks.

Pointing to "solid gains" at both Guinness Brewing and "This momentum provides a powerful springboard for the proposed merger with Grand-Met, which continues on after the turn of the year."

Mr Greener refused to comment on the state of relations with its biggest shareholder, LVMH, which continues to oppose the merger, but was on both sides of the Atlantic could be overcome. "We are totally confident we will re-ceive a decision that is totally satisfactory, both to us and

the regulators," he said. The strength of sterling knocked £12 million off inter

im profits and Mr Greener estimated the full-year effect at around £60 million. Some £6 million was wiped from its share of the profits of Moët Hennessy, the LVMH subsid-iary in which it has a 34 per cent stake. Yesterday LVMH reported an 18 per cent rise in interim profits to Fr1.92 bil-

lion (£197 million). Mr Greener said the effects of recent currency turmoil would be broadly offset. Earnings per share were up 9 per cent at 13.4p, and the

interim dividend, to be paid on October 28 as a foreign income dividend, rises 8 per

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN NEW YORK JOHN MERIWETHER, the

Wall Street trader who once offered to bet \$10 million (£6.25 million) on a game of Liar's Poker, is returning half the money in his \$6 billion hedge fund, Long Term Capital Management, to investors. The move follows a collapse

in the returns from 60 per cent two years ago to 15. All capital invested after December 31 1994, ten months after the fund was launched, and all profits will be returned.

The former head bond trader at Salomon Brothers became a legend in 1986 when John Gutfreund, Salomon's chairman, walked up to him

him to play a single game of Liar's Poker, a bluffing game based on the serial numbers on dollar bills, for \$1 million. Mr Meriwether replied that he would play for \$10 million

or not at all. Mr Gutfreund

smiled, shook his head and

returned to his office. But yesterday, in a jittery letter, Mr Meriwether told investors: "The fund has excess capital ...primarily because of a substantial increase in the capital base from the larger-than-expected, pastrealised rates of return, and high reinvestment rates elect-

ed by the fund's investors."

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list firms 'that need to improve'

By Philip Bassett, industrial editor

MARGARET BECKETT, the President of the Board of Trade, is to publish details of companies and industries that ministers think could inprove. The move is expected to prompt concerns about the Labour Party returning to old-style interventionist policies of

Mrs Beckett is convinced that specifying which industries and sectors are underperforming is a vital tool for increasing the UK's overall economic and industrial competitiveness. This is depite Labour insisting it will not revert to the old-style Labour industrial policies of "picking

Apple 'is heading for end'

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN NEW YORK

APPLE Computer which recently invited Bill Gates, founder of Microsoft, to help rescue the group — has chosen a new strategy that will destroy its entire business, says a top Silicon Valley research company. Dataquest, a widely respected industry watcher, said: "Apple has started down a path that will lead to its demise as a serious player in the PC market. The move is Apple's decision to curb the licensing of its computers, which are not compatible with other PCs. Apple bought the licence and assets of Power Computing Corp, the largest Apple clone-maker, for \$100 million last month. Last week, JBM and Motorola said they would no longer license the Mackintosh operating system from Apple.

winners", which ministers now dismiss as a policy of supporting losers.

Mrs Beckett told a Confederation of British Industry conference last night that the Government will apply the business technique of benchmarking — measuring a company's performance against the best — to British business as a whole in a new document to be published shortly. Benchmarking Brit-

The DTI said that this "will identify business areas in need of improvement", while Mrs Beckett told the CBI: "It is only by assessing themselves against the best, both at home and abroad, that companies will really improve."

She told the CBI that British

companies at their best were "world beaters", and singled out three she regarded in that category — BOC, the industrial gas company. Rolls-Royce, the aero-engine manufacturer partially based in her Derby constituency, and JCB, the construction equipment maker whose chairman, Sir Anthony Bamford, was identified by Tony Blair as a large donor to the Conservative Party.

Mrs Beckett said companies must manage their employees to get the best from them, to embrace technological improvements and innovation, and to operate partnership at all levels, but said that such individual moves by firms did not mean that companies "will receive no practical help from the Government".

After earlier in the day holding "constructive" talks with Karel van Miert, the European Competition Commissioner, on the planned BA/American Airlines and P&O/Stenn alliances, Mrs Beckett described herself to the CBI as "the voice of husiness in Government". She followed the speech with the first meeting of the Government's businessled advisory group on competitiveness.

End of journey, page 31

~ · - · · · · · · · · · REWARDING TIMES ❖



Neville Simms said that the shift away from housebuilding was proving successful

Tarmac in warning on quarrying tax plan By ADAM JONES

NEVILLE SIMMS, chief executive of Tarmac, the heavy building materials and construction group, hit out at the possibility of a tax on quarryng yesterday.

Mr Simms said it would raise the cost of construction projects to customers. Gordon Brown. the Chancellor, announced a review of the environmental costs of the extraction of aggregates in his first Budget.

Tarmac reported first-half pre-tax profits of £38.6 million esterday, compared with a loss of £58.3 million in the same period last year, when it had to absorb a £65 million restructuring charge.

Turnover on continuing operations increased from El.2 billion to £1.33 billion. Net debt fell from £512 million at June 30, 1996, to £411 million this year. Heavy building materials operating profits rose from £26.4 million to £43.3 million. In construction services they rose from £8.2 million to Ell.7 million.

Mr Simms said the results were "real evidence" that the group's shift away from housebuilding offers the potential for significant earnings growth. An unchanged inter-im dividend of 3p will be paid on December 3.

work on ulcer drug

By PAUL DURMAN

VANGUARD MEDICA, the drug development company. has abandoned work on a treatment that had little effect on patients treated in phase II

Vanguard and its partner Eli Lilly, the large US drugs company, had hoped to use VML 295 to treat those suffering with ulcerated colons. However, Robert Mansfield, Vanguard's chief executive. said the drug proved no more effective than the placebo.

Mr Mansfield played down the significance of the setback, saying that ulcerative colitis was recognised to be a high risk area. But Vanguard's shares fell 10p to a low for the year of 367 p, barely half their 705p peak.

Mr Mansfield said Vanguard was making good progress with the four phase III trials of its most important project, the migraine drug that it has licensed to SmithKline

The increased spending on the drug pushed Vanguard's research and development costs to £10.2 million (£3.8 million) in the first half. With no revenues, Vanguard suffered a pre-tax loss of £9.9 million (£3.7 million). It ended June with cash of E44.5

Vanguard gives up | US backing helps Biotech's trial

By PAUL DURMAN

THE US National Cancer Institute is backing an independent breast cancer trial of Marimastat, the cancer drug that is British Biotech's most important product.

The study, to be run by cancer specialists of the Eastern Co-operative Oncology Group, is the second "co-operative" study to look at Marimastat. British Biotech sees this as a sign of growing awareness of the drug among cancer specialists.

Most of British Biotech's £1.1 billion stock-market valuation rests on the success of Marimastat. The Oxford company said its own phase III

IMF turns

down crisis

fund plan

BY JANET BUSH

ASIAN plans for a new \$100 billion (£62 billion) crisis fund

to bail out troubled economies in the region were given a firm

thumbs down by the international Monetary Fund

Speaking at the IMFs an-

nual meeting in Hong Kong, Stanley Fischer, first deputy

managing director, objected to

a fund that would lend money

without linking the loans to strict conditions of economic

Mr Fischer said: "Access to

loans with no conditionality

would be a mistake, simply a

The idea for a crisis fund

was discussed at the first

meeting of a new grouping of

European and Asian finance

ministers which took place

before the gathering in Hong

Kong. The plan, which was

floated in response to the

collapse of markets in Thai-

land and the rest of East Asia.

has met with more or less

unanimous industrialised

countries and now from the

The Fund has already put in

place a \$17 billion rescue

package for Thailand with

extremely tough conditions for

economic reform.

performance.

trials of the drug were on track, with first results expected in the first half of 1999.

The company has begun a sixth study of the drug in ovarian cancer. It has yet to examine the drug in breast

British Biotech said Zacutex, the pancreatitis drug being reviewed by European regulators, was also making

satisfactory progress.
It said the increase in its

first-quarter losses, from £8 million to £9 million, was as planned. At the end of July, British Biotech still had cash of £173.1 million, following last year's substantial rights issue.

wound up

By GAVIN LUMSDEN

ACCESS TO JUSTICE, a

in an exceptionally swift action the High Court granted the winding up order on the same day that the DTI

Norton, which has been appointed liquidator by the Official Receiver, said that

inappropriately. Established in 1985, Access to Justice derived most of its income from letting space at its offices in Holborn, Central London. A meeting is to be held with a company director this morning, she

The petition was presented after an investigation had been carried out under Section 447 of the Companies Act

All public inquiries concerning the company should be made to the Official Receiver, 21 Bloomsbury Street, London WCIB 3SS.

Access to **Justice**

company that provides legal advice to people who could not obtain legal aid, has been wound up by the Department of Trade and Industry. after an investigation revealed serious flaws in the firm's accounts.

presented its petition. Shirley Jackson, of Begbie

the company was insolvent and had been trading

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Siebe to buy Eaton division for £193m

SIEBE, the acquisitive UK engineering company, has agreed to pay £193 million for the worldwide appliance control operations (ACO) of Eaton Corporation, of America, it was announced yesterday. ACO manufactures electronic and electro-mechanical control products for domestic appliances. Customers include General Electric, Electrolux and Bosch-Siemens. With headquarters in Strasbourg, it has manufacturing operations in America, Mexico, France, Italy, Germany, Monaco, Brazil, Australia and China, and employs about 4,800 people worldwide.

In the 12 months to June 30 ACO earned operating profits of E19.4 million on sales of £272.6 million. Net assets were £129.8 million. Separately, Siebe announced the proposed divestment of selected non-core businesses, including its Tecalemit garage equipment operations and Wells Electronics, the US manufacturer of semiconductor burn-in and test sockets. Combined sales of the operations to be divested were EH5 million in the year to April 5; net assets were £44 million.

Southern publishes dip

PROFIT before tax at Southern Newspapers, publisher of The Southern Daily Echo, fell to £14.1 million (£18.8 million) in the year to June 30. Last year's figure included a £7.5 million profit on the sale of the group's Southampton city centre offices. Although Southern received a further £4.2 million from the sale this year, the group took a £3.4 million exceptional charge. A final dividend of 15p a share, due on November II, makes 20p (17.75p). Adjusted earnings were 48.05p (37.95p).

Sentry Farming falls

SHARES in Sentry Farming fell from 115p to 83h p after the food production group slid deeper into the red for the first half of 1997 and said full-year profits are likely to be substantially lower than last year if lower wheat prices persist. Wheat prices have fallen significantly, due largely to the strength of sterling. Pre-tax losses in the first half grew from £497,000 to £774.000. Losses per share rose from 5.23p to 6.9p. Again there is no half-year dividend.

GE Capita in £537111

takeover

Redian

Talks lift Arcadian

SHARES in Arcadian rose from 504p to 654p after the company revealed that it had received an approach which may or may not lead to an offer for the hotels company. Arcadian said that discussions were at a preliminary stage and that a further announcement will be made in due course. Arcadian is worth almost £96 million. It made £3.6 million before tax on sales of £30.5 million in the year to December 31.

SB's Requip approved

SMITHKLINE BEECHAM has received US Food and Drug Administration clearance to begin marketing Requip, a treatment for Parkinson's disease. Tests have shown that it can enable early-stage sufferers to recover some of their motor skills. and can also help late-stage sufferers who are being treated with levodopa, the current standard treatment. Requip, which is forecast to have peak sales of £200 million, can cause side effects including nausea, dizziness, somnolence and headaches.

Shorts to create 300 jobs

SHORTS, the Belfast aerospace company, is making a £108.4 million investment that will create more than 300 jobs and safeguard 670 more over the next five years, Mo Mowlam, the Northern Ireland Secretary said. The company is to design and make vital airframe components for two new aircraft projects being undertaken by Bombardier, its Canadian parent. Shorts has been given financial assistance of £19.5 million by the Government's Industrial Development Board.

Simon advances 16%

THE restructured Simon Group, formerly Simon Engineering, reported profits of £5.8 million before tax for the first half of 1997, a 16 per cent rise on the same period last year. Turnover fell from £165.8 million to £119 million as the group continued to focus on port and engineering services. Earnings were 2.3p a share (1.5p). No interim dividend will be paid. Simon Group dismissed previous rumours of a possible bid from Rutland Trust. The shares rose 1p to 39p.

Gold Medal to float

GOLD MEDAL TRAVEL is to seek a stock market flotation within two years after acquiring the controlling interest in Travelworld, the travel agent, and full control of Airline Network, the telesales centre for discounted scheduled airfares, for an undisclosed sum. Gold Medal, based in Blackpool, specialises in the wholesale of airline seats to independent travel agents. It expects turnover to rise from £245 million to up to £300 million in the next 12 months.

Proudfoot passes payout

PROUDFOOT, the management consultancy, is again passing payment of an interim dividend after returning pretax profits little changed at £2.57 million in the six months to June 30, against £2.52 million for the first half of the previous year. Earnings rose to 2p a share from 1.4p. Malcolm Hughes, chief executive, said the company needed to preserve net cash reserves until it was clear that the trend of earnings recovery and cash generation could be sustained.

Britton profits fall

BRITTON GROUP, the packaging company, had a fall in pre-tax profits to £7.9 million from £11.1 million in the half-year to June 30, affected by the pound's strength and a decline in cartons division sales. Turnover was £109.5 million (£10.2 million). (Ello million). Earnings fell to 4.24p a share (5.76p) but the interim dividend is 1.45p (1.32p). The shares rose 3p to 752p. against a 1552p 12-month high. Robin Williams, chief executive, said trading conditions remained competitive.

Hely Hutchinson lobbies over textbooks

Hodder to target schools

By Raymond Snoddy, media editor

TIM HELY HUTCHINSON. chief executive of Hodder Headline, the book publisher, hopes to persuade the Government that parents should pay for children's schoolbooks.

Mr Hely Hutchinson, with other publishers, has argued that the present £50 to £75 per pupil spent on books each year is completely inadequate. Instead, they are lobbying for the Government to introduce a new scheme that would require parents to cover the cost of books while offering protec-tion for families with low incomes. "It is certainly in (the

Government's] thinking already." Mr Hely Hutchinson claimed yesterday. Hodder, which was at the

forefront of the campaign that led to the ending of the Net Book Agreement, was reporting a rise in pre-tax profits to £1.3 million from £500,000 for the six months to June 30. Sales fell to £38 million from £40.3 million as the company discontinued its low-margin agency and door-to-door business overseas.

Earnings per share almost doubled to 25p and the interim dividend has been raised

by 10 per cent to 2.2p. Net borrowings were reduced by 21 per cent to £7.3 million and gearing has been reduced to 22 per cent.

Current Hodder titles include biographies of Peter Cook and Dickie Bird and novels by Elizabeth George, who is moving to Hodder from Transworld, Stephen King and Charles Frazier,

Mr Hely Hutchinson said the second half had started well with like-for-like publishing sales ahead in the first eight months. Hodder shares rose 16p to 196p yesterday.

TOURIST RATES Burnis Buys 2.34 21.37 62.85 2.386 0.857 11.3 3.05 483 11.35 5.97 3000 210.33 0.671 3.452 2.32 308.53 8.29 256.78

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Yesterday's winners: P Wood, Wirral, M Gadd,

Mid Glamorgan; V Ward, Hindhead. They won

Maidstone, K Greenhay, Tetesbury, D Arbery.

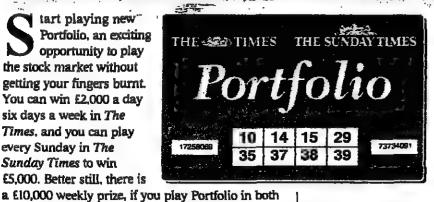
companies listed on the Portfolio panel (see Equity Prices, page 32).

• The eight are your "Portfolio of Shares".

 The 44 companies are taken from the hundreds whose shares are listed on The Times Equity Prices page every day.

 Simply check the share price movement (+ or -) of your eight Portfolio shares.

 When you have checked all eight share movements and entered them on to the Portfolio panel on page 32 add them up to obtain your plus or minus total.



£2,000 TO BE WON TODAY — TURN TO THE EQUITY PRICES, PAGE 32

When adding up your total, ignore fractions, ie enter 161/2 as 16 (the symbol ... equals no change).

 If your overall total exactly matches the points required in the Daily Portfolio Dividend, printed on the Portfolio panel on page 32, you win or share the £2,000 daily prize.

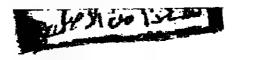
WEEKLY ACCUMULATOR GAME The weekly accumulator game started in The Times

on Monday. To play the weekly accumulator game simply add up your daily Portfolio totals, Monday. to Sunday. If your accumulator total matches exactly the weekly portfolio accumulator dividend, published in the The Sunday Times, you win or share the weekly accumulator prize of £10,000.

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Claims for The Times daily Portfolio dividend must be made to the Portfolio claims line on 0171-481 3388 between 9.30am and 3pm today. No claims can be accepted outside these hours and you must claim your prize the day you win. You must have your card with you when you claim. Other persons can claim on your behalf provided they have your card. No responsibility can be accepted for failure to contact the claims office for any reason within the stated hours. In the event of more than one valid claim for any prize, that prize will be divided equally among the winners.

*You can get a Portfolio card by calling the card request line on 0171-481 3355 during normal office hours. Cards are also available at selected newsagents.



on Cruickshank has spared us the double speak of politicians. He is bowing out of Oftel not to spend more time with his family but to spend more time in the private sector, where his talents will sector, where his talents will undoubtedly command a higher price than even the souped-up regulatory authority for which he

" The Dublishes de F

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A MARCON

is calling could possibly afford. His business background, cou-pled with his inside knowledge of Ofiel's thinking and practices, will make Mr Cruickshank a very valuable commodity, although his regular bad-tempered spats with BT perhaps limit his options for future employment. There again, BT directors may feel that it is worth doubling his current £124,600 salary just to have him safely on their side.

But Mr Cruickshank's decision to forgo a second term of office as Director-General of Telecommunications does focus attention on the difficulties of recruiting, and keeping. high-calibre regulators. It is an issue causing some concern to Howard Davies, the man charged with creating NewRo, the City's new superregulator.

Mr Davies has now settled on a home for his all-encompassing organisation, but he has yet to name the top team that will be moving into Canary Wharf with him. So far, suggestions as to who may be his chief executive have been remarkably unimaginative, concentrating on individuals already ensconced in the regulatory

Team needed to end NewRo-sis

field. Yet if NewRo is to be an effective new force instead of an unwieldy bureaucracy, it will need to attract a raft of high-calibre. and potentially very expensive.

individuals.

The question now being debated around the foundations of NewRo is whether it should be aiming for a structure based around career regulators, or whether there are advantages in building an organisation which is merely a stepping stone in a financial career. The latter is already the de facto norm in many of the financial regulatory authorities, where staff turnover has reached levels that threaten organisational chaos. At the PIA, the departure rate is about 20 per cent a year but at Imro, it has apparently reached twice that level.

The uncertainty generated by the impending amalgamation of the authorities under NewRo's umbrella is obviously one cause of concern, but money is another. The private sector is currently finding no difficulty in fishing out regulators with the bait of hefty increases in their earnings.

Imagine how the problem could be compounded once the organisations all gather down in Docklands and staff from one regulator learn just how much more those



from another regulator - probably the Bank of England -

Mr Davies has taken on a formidable task. Devising the struc-ture and systems of a super-SIB would be sufficient challenge, but building it while simultaneously keeping the existing structures functioning offers horrendous scope for disaster. If those disasters are to be avoided, Mr Davies will need the services of a first-rate organisation man at his side.

Give prudence a chance

There was a single, stun-ning figure in the voluminous national accounts for the second quarter. The savings ratio, the most eagerly watched indicator of consumer confidence — or lack of it — jumped to 11.7 per cent. roughly on a par with the level last seen in spring 1996. So much for a ram-

pant consumer boom. To put this figure into perspective, the sav-ings ratio fell to 4 per cent in 1988 when the economy hit boiling point. It is truly remarkable that the ratio now remains at nearly three times this level after five years of an economic recovery that has latterly seen tax cuts and, of course, an unprecedented one-off addition to the nation's wealth in the form of building society windfalls. There seems to be a distinct lack of consumer animal spirits considering such a promising economic backdrop. The statisticians, of course, would like to confuse the issue a

little, and point out that the big jump in the savings ratio largely reflects hefty increases in divi-dends that have boosted pension funds, which count as personal sector wealth. So, there has been significant rise in unspent income rather than an increase in active savings. If the rise in the savings ratio had reflected that consumers were choosing to save large rises in wages, it would have told an even more dramatic story about consumer caution in this age of insecurity

But the figure is still dramatic and could have looked even bet-ter. For windfalls that have been saved do not figure in the national accounts as they have been redistributed. But any windfall shares which were cashed in and then used to buy cars or holidays do show up as consumer spending. This mismatch of accounting conventions should, as the Office for National Statistics points out, lead to a fall in the savings ratio. So where does that accounting

nightmare leave us? It seems that, taking out the effect of the strong increase in dividends, the savings ratio would have remained roughly stable. Assuming a windfall boost to spending, it should have fallen. So, even if our national statisticians cannot capture the effect of windfall savings, they are there.

You only have to look at record purchases of Peps in unit trusts in the quarter to see that consu-mers are not abandoning the defensive good sense that has been the hallmark of this low inflation recovery. Inflation hawks at the Bank of England may feel the urge to increase rates again, but the prudence of the public does not justify it.

A vintage approach

ast night there was some merry-making in Dublin

as the directors of GPA gathered to toast the future of a company which, not so long ago, looked to have only a hair-raising past. But led by the remarkable Dennis Stevenson, the aircraft leasing company that fell to earth with debts of £3.3 billion is now getting off the ground again, in a new, more

restrained, guise:
The terms of the refinancing he engineered prevent Mr Stevenson rushing out and buying a shiny new fleet of aeroplanes, but there would be little danger of that any how. The cerebral Mr Stevenson has effectively turned GPA into a new busi-

ness, selling analysis and advice.
Shareholders in Pearson should take note of the extraordinary achievements at GPA. While there has been some carping that the new top team of chairman Stevenson and chief executive Marjorie Scardino have not moved fast enough to produce a dramatic restructuring of the sprawling company, there has been considerable activity.

Some businesses have been sold and important new appointments have been made. Hard decisions are being taken, not least that of putting up for auction almost 1,200 cases of vintage wine. The hangover from the days when the group owned the Chateau Latour vineyard is likely to raise more than £2 million. Selling it rather than quaffing it in the boardroom is indicative of the new regime now installed there.

Surely not . . .

THE strategy at MEPC is a carefully considered response to the changing conditions in the property market. The decision to buy PSIT, pull out of the United States and Autoralia States and Australia, and return at least £300 million to shareholders is obviously intended as a means of building long-term shareholder value. It would be totally malicious to see it as a response to lurking predators, and a threat to management jobs.

GE Capital in £537m Irish takeover

By Martin Barrow

GE CAPITAL'S corporate spending spree in Europe continued yesterday when the US company announced a IrE591 million (E537 million) agreed takeover bid for Woodchester Investments, the irish leasing company (See Commentary this page).

Ireland's biggest takeover will raise almost £8 million for Craig McKinney, Woodchester's chairman and chief executive. It will also provide a Ir£391 million cash injection for Credit Lyonnais, the ailing French bank that was ordered to sell its 54 per cent interest in Woodchester by the French Government as part of a refinancing plan. Credit Lyonnais has given irrevocable acceptances in respect of its holding. The takeover requires the

Redland in joint venture with Lafarge

REDLAND, the roof tiles group, plans to resolve the problems of its French aggregates business through a 50-50 joint venture with Lafarge, the French building materials group (Paul Durman writes).

Redland aims to combine Granulats with Lafarge's sand, gravel and crushed rock business. Granulats sold 29 million tonnes of aggregates last year, while the Lafarge business had sales of 26 million tonnes. Redland also intends to sell its French readymix concrete business to Lafarge.

approval of the French Treasury, Ireland's Central Bank and the Bank of England, which regulates Woodchest-er's UK financing businesses. GE Capital, the financial services are of America's

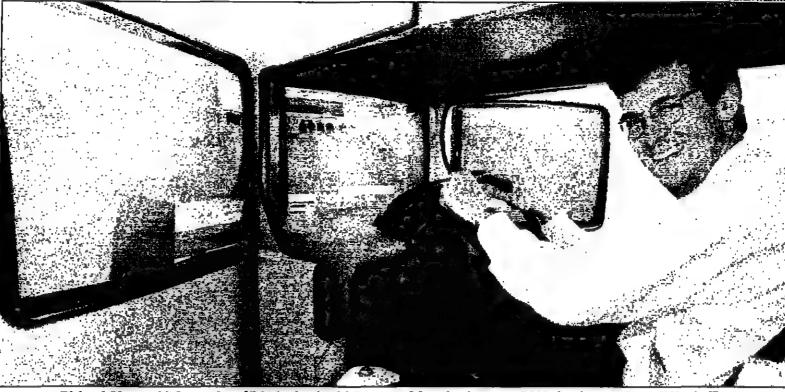
General Electric, is believed to have seen off rival approaches from Ford Credit and AT&T Capital to secure a recommendation for its terms.

GE has been investing heavily in Europe recently, and has targeted the British Isles. In August it acquired Central Transport Rental, the former Tiphook trailer rental business, for E118 million, having acquired TLS, the commercial vehicle business, for £68.2 million in July. Earlier this year it bought BRS Car Lease and DBS Nationwide, a modular building company.

Woodchester principally operates in motor and equipment leasing and instalment credit, with extensive operations in Britain, Ireland and Portugal. The company also has a 28 per cent interest in Lookers, the UK motor dealer.

Yesterday Woodchester reported a rise in first-half pretax profits to IrE25.1 million. up 17 per cent, with earnings of 178.73p a share, up 18 per cent. In view of the GE Capital offer there is no interim dividend.

Mr McKinney and Dan O'Connor, deputy chief executive said yesterday that they expected to remain with the company after the takeover. Mr McKinney, a polo-playing Scot, owns 2.6 million Woodchester shares and holds options over a further 759,986 that would yield a profit of ir£799,961 at the offer price.



Richard Glover, chief executive of BSM, tries the driving seat of the school's new £25,000 simulator at the Guildford office

BSM steers new course with simulators

TEENAGERS under the age of 17 are being urged by the British School of Motoring to learn to drive using advanced car simulators which have cost the troubled company £25,000 each (Chris Ayres writes).

The company, which suffered a fall

blamed its poor performance on the introduction of a written test. Richard Glover, BSM's chief execu-

tive, said the company was adversely affected by the Government's decision

in pre-tax profits to £1.5 million from

£2.9 million in the half year to June 27,

to stop learners taking a practical test until they have passed a written test. "We had no indication that they would introduce that rule," he said. "What has happened is there has been a time lag between people passing their theory tests and taking practical tests.

million.

As far as we can tell, the number of applications has now picked up again."

Turnover for the half year fell to £12.7 million from £13.8 million. Earnings fell to 3.9p a share from 7.5p. The interim dividend is maintained at 2.53p

a share, payable on October 10. **Building safety firm**

Bruntcliffe directors to share total of £2.45m on takeover

By JASON NISSE

DIRECTORS of Brunteliffe Aggregates, the building materials firm facing a takeover bid from Ennstone, are to receive termination and bonus payments equal to 9.5 per cent of the market value of the company if the £26 million deal goes through.

Ennstone's offer, worth 45p per Bruntcliffe share, is expected to go through in the next few days, leading to the departure of Bruntcliffe's three executive directors -Mike Wallis, chief executive, Nigel Moreton, finance director, and John Baxter.

They are to receive termination payments of £587,000, £492,000 and £446,000 respectively. In addition they will share a £750,000 takeover bonus. This was included in their service contracts by a deed of variation, signed on Christmas Eve, last year.

The directors are also enti-

tled to cash in share options worth £180,000, taking the total received by the three directors to £2.45 million, or 9.5 per cent of the value of

Ennstone's offer. Sir Bryan Baker, Bruntcliffe's non-executive chairman, was unavailable yesterday but a spokesman for the company said that the shares had doubled in value since the takeover bonus was put in

to go public at £15.5m

BY OUR CITY STAFF

used to protect workers on high buildings, including Ca-nary Wharf and the Eiffel Tower, is headed for the stock Bridge in Bristol. market. Latchways is going public in a flotation that will value the company at £15.5

The company manufactures "fall arrest" safety equipment used by maintenance and construction workers and window cleaners. Other sites where its system is installed

THE maker of a safety system include St Paul's Cathedral and the Clifton Suspension

The company is going pub-lic by way of a placing with institutional and private investors at 155p a share. Dealing in the shares is due to start on October 3. Latchways, which has a staff of 25, will use the £1.5 million flotation proceeds to expand its international markets.

In the past three years turnover has risen from £1.7 million in 1995 to £3.6 million in the year to April, while pretax profits have risen from £401,000 to £1.2 million over

the same period.

The flotation is being handled by Bell Lawrie White & Co, the broker, of Glasgow.

MEPC to withdraw from US and Australia

By CARL MORTISHED

MEPC, the property group, plans to quit the United States and Australia, shedding £1 billion worth of property, in a move that will reverse more than two decades of investment overseas (See Commentary this page).
At least £300 million of

the net proceeds will be returned to shareholders, probably by issuing a redeemable preference share, but the sell-off will lead to a reduced dividend. Next year, the pay-out will be cut from the current year's 20p to a minimum of 12p per share.

James Tuckey, chief ex-ecutive, said the balance of the proceeds would be reinvested in UK property with the focus on retail and industrial buildings: "We feel confident of the direction of the UK market for 18-24 months."

The move is likely to mollify some disgruntled institututions, which

urged Hammerson to enter into takeover talks with MEPC earlier this year. One leading fund man-

ager said yesterday: "After that failed we said this is what we would like you to do. They have responded. We think it is time the board were allowed to get on with the job."

Mr Tuckey indicated that he would be seeking a single buyer for each of the US and Australian portfolios. The overseas properties account for 48 per cent of MEPC's earnings but only 30 per cent of the assets because of the low cost of property finance in the US. The American MEPC assets include the Northridge shopping centre in California, which was damaged in the Los Angeles earthquake.

Tempus, page 30

PizzaExpress signs Middle East deal He founded Woodchester with his brother Jack in 1977. further 30 this year. It also By DOMINIC WALSH

If perfection on the palme: - ixisis Iliis is Il.

ON BALANCE, THE FINEST MALT IN THE WORLD

PIZZAEXPRESS has signed a franchise deal that should see at least 50 restaurants open

throughout the Middle East over the next four to five years. The Khorafi group, based in Kuwait, has paid more than E350,000 for the exclusive rights for most Middle Eastern countries, and openings are planned for Bahrain, Abu Dhabi, Egypt, Kuwait, Oman and Saudi Arabia. Khorafi staff are currently attending Pizza Express training courses

in the UK. PizzaExpress has just opened its first overseas franchise in Cyprus.

Also in place are agree ments covering France and India, while Turkey, Pakistan. Greece and Russia are all under negotiation. The group's Indian partner, the Modi industrial group, is planning 40 units over ten years, the first of which is due to open this autumn in Delhi. Hugh Osmond, a director of Pizza Express, said: "Overseas

expansion will not become a

significant part of the business

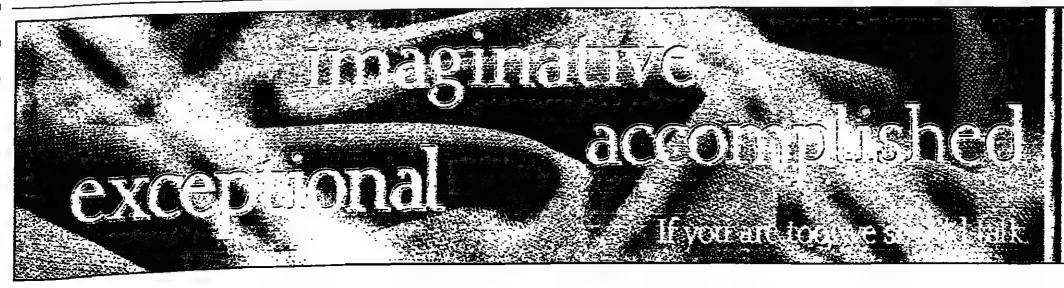
for a couple of years. But if it works well we will up the rate." For each exclusive territory, the company takes an upfront fee, a fee per restaurant opened plus a royalty of about

6 per cent of sales. Mr Osmond said the focus for the time being would remain the UK and Ireland, where he believes the current total of 150 restaurants could eventually reach 250-300. In the year to June 30, the group opened 32 restaurants at an average cost of about £400,000 each. It expects to add a

bought out 32 franchisees. The company's rapid rate of expansion fuelled a 58 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £16.2 million on turnover 60 per cent better at £71.1 million. Like-for-like sales were up 9 per cent, and Mr Osmond said trading since the year end had proved "encouraging". Earnings were 20.1p (13.6p) a share. A final dividend of

2.5p. due on November 12. makes 3.35p for the year (2.7p).







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Equities fail once again to hold the high ground

were dashed as the stock market climbed tantalisingly close to its all-time, high only

to run out of steam.
The FTSE 100 touched 5,095.1 in early trading, but then hit some resistance. It lacked the support seen on Monday from a buoyant futures and gilts market.

The downward drift on Wall Street cast a further shadow and the index of leading UK shares was down 48.2 at 5,027.5, although off the worst of the day. Volumes were 760 million, helped by busy trade in a number of stocks including Shell, BT and BTR, "Having almost touched the alltime high, the market withered away, with little fol-low through from investors." commented one dealer.

Among those bucking the trend was Centrica, putting on 212p to 9014p, while Railtrack continued its progress with talk of interest from US investors. The shares ended 13p higher at 867p, a new high for the stock.

Lasmo, the oil exploration group, put on 312p to 26612p on news of the group's further expansion in the Pakistan gas market. Asda was in demand. with over 12 million shares changing hands and the shares pushed to a new high of

16212p, up 212p.
At one point SmithKline Beecham shares were trading 2412p higher after news o FDA approval in the US of its Requip drug for the treatment of Parkinson's disease. They dropped back to end 4p higher at 558'zp. Other leading drugs groups lost some of their recent gains, with Glaxo easing 7p to £13.56 and Zeneca down 14p to £19.65.

Among healthcare stocks, Biocompatibles was again under pressure, sliding a further 60p to 475p, a new low for the year. British Biotech, reporting a lower than expected loss in the first quarter, rose 312p to 168p, while Cortecs rose 312p to 199p.

Property groups found sup-port, with British Land up 10p to 615p and Land Securities rising 10½ p to 95012p. News of MEPC's plans to sell its US and Australian interests also found favour, with the shares marked 4p higher at 49812p.

Guinness shares as the mar-ket digested the details of the group's first-half results from Anthony Greener, chairman. in a market eager for news on



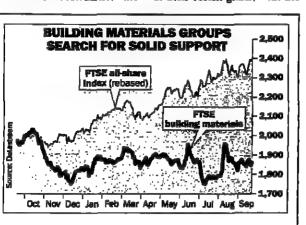
Anthony Greener, of Guinness, down 712p on rate fears

the progress of its merger with Grand Metroplitan and its relationship with LVMH, the shares rose 10p in early trading before closing at 57612p, down 712p on concern exchange over fluctuations.

GrandMet followed Guinness lower, off 51ap to 58912p, while negative broker comment took a further toll on Scottish & Newcastle, the

brewing and leisure group, leaving it down 15p at 727p FTSE 100 debutantes were again sitting it out, with Woolwich off 7¹2p to 308¹2p amid talk of a sell note from SBC Warburg, Billiton, the mining group, another new entrant, was the worst performing FTSE 100 stock, end-

ing 912 lower at 237p. Other banks gave up some of their recent gains, with the



TARMAC put on 3p to 129p after moving into the black at the half year, while Pilkington put on 4p to 1554p as more than ten million shares were traded.

Redland closed

changed at 280 2 after further news on its plans to restructure its French In spite of the more

encouraging news emerging from building materigroups, the sector the bottom, having parted company from the market's upward trend a year ago. Concerns over fluctuating exchange rates, particularly for a number of large stocks such as Redland with a sizeable exposure to the dampened enthusiasm for the sector, together with worries about rises in UK interest rates, Jonathan Timms, an analyst at Charterhouse Tilney Secu-

rities, said. But the picture could look much rosier within rix months, particularly if UK Charterhouse is a buyer of Caradon, which moved up 2p to 1912p and Hanson, off 62p at 298p.

Haf	ifax i	2¹2p	low	er a	t 710	zp,
	clays					
	Nat	West	dov	٧N	10,5b	at (
8591	21).					

MAJOR INDICES

.... 7969.57 (-27.26) 952.53 (-2.90)

2997.23 (-20.22)

New York (midday):

Tokyo: Nikkei Averag

Hong Kong: Hang Seng

Amsterdam:

Sydney:

Frankfurt

Singapore:

Brussels

Paris

Zurich

London:

FT 30 FTSE 100

PTSE Enrotrics 100

US\$ German Mark .

Antoigsta Cv Uts

Anım Ecsouros

Cammell Laird

Galen Holdings Helicon Pubsig

Kingfisher Leisure

LS Solutions

SES Group

Thom B

PrzaExpress

Tilbury Dougls

Cariton Comm

Blue Circle

EDNOON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Ralitrack

Severn Trent B

Stentor Warrants

RIGHTS ISSUES

MAJOR CHANGES

265p (+13p)

759p (+31p1₂)

820g (+17'zg)

. 109p (-12p) 465'ap (-21p)

5571₄p (-18p)

444120 (-120)

.. 523p (-11'#) ,... 552p (-12p) .. 727'#p (-15p) .. 613'#p (-11p)

Closing Prices Page 32

4970 (-140)

Gearhouse n/p (250) 98 lohn Lusty n/p (8) l's

Langdons Foods n/p (I) !:

Misvs Lits Cnv U n/p 80

Bristol & West Prf

Computerland UK

FTSE Ail-Share ______ 2364.85 (-16.66 FTSE Non Financials ... 2387 98 (-16.42

Bank of England official close (4pm)

RP(_____ 158.5 Aug (3.5%) Jan (987-100 NJ/UL ____ 157.1 Aug (2.8%) Jan (987-100

RECENT ISSUES

1164

+ 75

Second-liners put in a more robust performance, with the FTSE 250 up 2.7 points at

Among the best was CRT Group, the acquisitive training and recruitment group, backed by Michael Milken, the former junk bond dealer. The shares jumped 13p to

Manchester United, which reports next week, put on a burst of speed and added 3312p to close at 66212p. Brokers are forecasting pretax profits of around £25 million (£15.4 million).

Pizza Express was snapped up after rolling out a 58 per cent rise in profits to £16.2 million in the year to June. The shares jumped 3112p to

759p.

News of a bid approach at Arcadian International, the hotel group, sent the shares sharply higher to 6512p, up 15p. They hit 2 low of 381 p in

Hodder Headline, the publishing group, was 16p higher at 196p on stronger first-half results, while AIM-quoted Southern Newspapers, the printing and publishing group, rose 2012p to 749p after year-end results and a strong trading statement. Selected retailers found fa-

vour with Allders, up op to 241 ap after its acquisition of seven Maples stores. Further consideration of good figures from Alexon helped its shares nudge 4p higher to 231 2p. while Argos rose 8p to 696 2p and Harvey Nichols ended 7p ahead at 283 2p. Less fortunate was Safeway, which lost 1012p to 385p and Dixons, down ilp to 61312p.

GILT-EDGED: The Bank of England's £1.5 billion auction of Treasury 7 per cent 2002 was covered 2.3 times, but failed to cause a stir in the

The December series of the long gilt closed off E³32 at £117233, with a modest total of 57,000 contracts completed. At the long end Treasury 8 per cent 2015 ended down E332 at £114932, while Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was off £116 at

shares fell in late morning profit-taking after Monday's rise. The Dow Jones industrial average was down 27.26 to 7,969.57 at midday.

TEMPUS

A question of questions

been the group's ability to

find the right properties at the right price. Even though

property prices and rents

have risen, particularly in

London, rents are being kept

at less than 7.5 per cent of

turnover. Margins are im-

proving as the group buys in

domestic franchises, and by

the time new sites do begin to

dry up, the benefits of inter-

A YEAR ago MEPC was musing about spinning off its US shopping centres in a Real Estate Investment Trust, a high-yielding property investment vehicle that has become all the rage in America. Today MEPC reckons that it cannot achieve the necessary critical size and, instead, the US portfolio and the Australian properties are to be sold. Dabbling in US real estate since the early 1970s, MEPC built up a staff of more than 400 and one might wonder why the board took so long to conclude that its US operations were not going to make the grade.

However, that is history and MEPC is not just in retreat but is handing surplus capital back to investors, a financial discipline that was unknown at MEPC in the 1980s.

The tougher question is what MEPC does with the remaining cash. Balancing its office

portfolio with shops and industrial sheds will reinforce its role as an equity share in the UK property market. Those institutions who told MEPC that it was a poor proxy for US real estate (given the profusion of quoted REITs) cannot complain and the outlook for commercial property still looks good: average yields are I per cent higher than benchmark gilts, suggesting capital growth to come. MEPC investors who sit tight should see that filterinto the share price.

The wider question is what role should companies such as MEPC and Land Securities play? Holding property through shares is tax inefficient for pension funds and, sooner or later, tenants will reject the restrictive long leases that support such companies. But there is no sign of creative solutions emerging from

new concept.

PIZZA THE ACTION

national franchising should

start to flow through. It is

also keeping an eye out for a

million would put the share

price on a fairly racy 27 times

earnings, but if, as expected,

profits exceed £30 million in

1999, that should come down

to just 21. Well worth holding

Profits this year of £23

PizzaExpress

ENTREPRENEURS such as Luke Johnson and Hugh Osmond are rarely longterm investors. After bringing PizzaExpress to the market in 1993, most people (themselves included) expected them to cash out within a couple of years. Four years later they are still in situ and the company is worth more than £500 million.

While the success of the formula created by Peter Boizot 30 years ago has never been in doubt, there has always been a question mark over its ability to keep on expanding. At flotation Johnson and Osmond were predicting the UK could probably handle 120 restaurants. Yesterday, at the opening of the 150th restaurant, a figure of 250 to 300 was cited. As with JD Wetherspoon,

the pub operator, the key has

NEVILLE SIMMS is happy with the new Government, barring a grumble about a review of aggregates taxation. An integrated transport policy will bring rail infrastructure work, particularly mainte-nance contracts, where margins are an attractive 5-7 per cent, although roadbuilding

Tarmac

unpopularity. Tarmac has more than a passing interest in the occupants at Downing Street as Simms has hitched his wagon to the PFI, and such projects. if they are won, will lend momentum to the contruction arm's bid for a 3 per cent profit margin. But will this make much difference to

will suffer to reflect the car's

group profits? Tarmac has three big PFI projects so far — a hospital, a prison and motorway imconstruction costs of £245 million. Their profits depend on the number of cars using

eral years. The cost of identifying PFI opportunities and bidding for them, meanwhile, is high, and negotiations with government bureaucrats are slow. Tarmac's private finance unit costs £3.5 million a year. The group has been restructured well, although interim profits were boosted by a fall in capital investment. The longterm growth picture is still cloudy and the shares seem

fairly valued on a prospective

full-year p/e of about 14.7.

and will be unclear for sev-

Convertibles

THE market in convertible securities continues to shrink as companies retire old issues and rising share prices lead investors to convert the stock into ordinary shares.

Arnec, the contractor is using spare cash to retire an outence share issue and Land Securities could soon be taking a close look at redeeming

bond. The property company can redeem the bonds at par the share price exceeds 968p and yesterday its shares were 950p. A company of: LandSec's strength ought to be able to borrow ten-year. money at 7½ per cent or bet-

ter, so there is no reason to

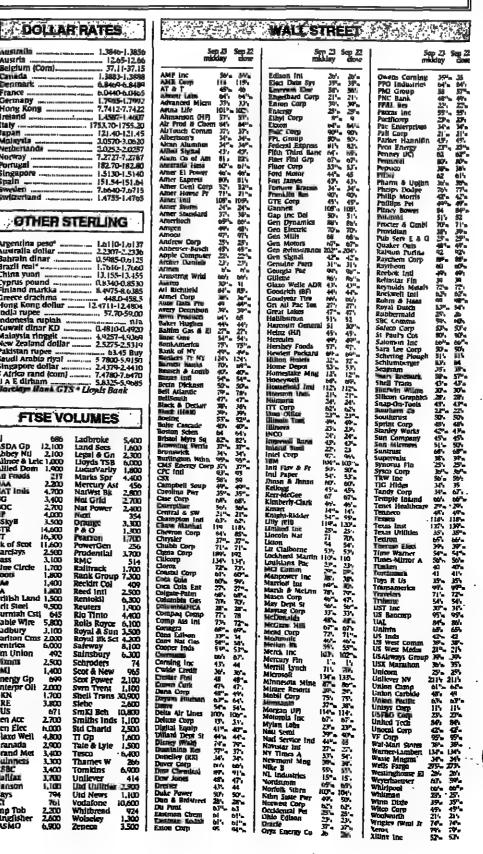
keep such securities. The convertible market has shrunk from £15 billion a few years ago to £12 billion with few new issues, while corporate cash generation encourages redemptions. The continued absence of borrowers is curious given huge demand for the product: BAA recently managed to raise £200 million at the astonishing rate of 47s per cent.

to be attracting corporate treasurers but the obsession with efficient balance sheets and the Chancellor's removal of the dividend tax credit renissues unfashionable. But why argue with 5 per cent?

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

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XXII

Such cheap money ought

End of the journey still not in sight Pressure is increasing on Margaret Beckett to reach a conclusion

argaret Beckett's talks yes-terday with Karel van Miert, European Competi-tion Commissioner, inched White-hall. hall, Brussels and Washington further towards being in line on two key competition policy decisions — on British Alexandria (1874) British Airways' planned US alliance and the proposed link-up between the main cross-Channel lerry companies.

Even before yesterday's meeting, Whitehall was not expecting the President of the Board of Trade's talks with Mr Van Miert to reach a sudden solution to the long-running sagas over planes and ferries. "If we could find an accommodation, that would be terrific," said one senior official. "But we're just stuck in the middle." Mrs Beckett's critics - and on her

competition decisions, she inevitably has them — don't quite see it that way. They charge her privately with abdicating her responsibility on com-petition policy and practice, of being too ready to fall into line behind Brussels and Mr Van Miert's decisions. Mrs Beckett's officials emphasise the delicacy and difficulty of trying to resolve complex issues with big commercial consequences.

on the BA/American and P&O/Stena links, says Philip Bassett Labour came into office in May committed to reforming competition law in the UK, and Mrs Beckett has

now put out for consultation not just draft proposals to do so but a full Bill in draft form, which is largely being well received. But the Government's drive to reform the framework of UK competition law and bring it into line with Europe — a move welcomed by British business eager to cut back on duplication — does not of course obviate tricky decisions on individual merger plans from specific companies. Of the two examined by Mrs Beckett

and the Commissioner yesterday in talks, which also took in wider aspects of competition policy and law in London and Brussels, the battle over BA's planned alliance with American Airlines is the larger issue.

The bare bones of the argument are that the European Commission looks set to veto the BA-AA link-up unless the two companies surrender 353

weekly take-off and landing slots at Heathrow. Brussels argues that the proposed alliance, which provides for extensive co-operation on flight schedules and fare-setting, would give the two firms unfair market advantage, in that they would control more than 60 per cent of flights between the UK and the US.

slots are a vital asset of its business, and, if it is to give them up, it should be allowed to sell them, or be recompensed for them. American says it will accept the recommendations of the UK's Office of Fair Trading that 168 slots should be ceded - but not the number sought by Brussels.

For its part, BA argues that the

Neither side is budging, though with time pressure now on — the airlines want the deal ratified by Washington, London and Brussels by November in order to allow schedules to put in place for next summer's peak business period - talk behind the scenes is turning to prospects of some kind of agreement. On ferries, the argument is at least mainly domestic. Pushed by competition from the Channel Tunnel, P&O, the shipping and property group, is planning to merge its cross-Channel ferry operations with Stena, the Swedish company, saving some £75 million out of total costs of £280 million, in a move which would take two ships off the Dover-Calais route

and lead to the loss of 400 jobs.

Brussels is concerned that the linkup, which would give the two com-panies around 40 per cent of the market, would operate separately from the companies' other activities, and in particular would not be cross-subsidised by them. Mr Van Miert is indicating it will veto the link-up unless the companies make concessions.

The Commission's tough stance on ferries has prompted criticism of Mrs

cation of the UK Monopolies and Mergers Commission's report on the planned link-up, which the Department of Trade and Industry has had since April. Mrs Beckett has been accused of hiding behind Brussels's skirts, with both companies wanting

to get on with their plans.

Whitehall is warding off such attacks, insisting that it is not so much a matter of chiming in with Brussels's timing on either planes or ferries, but more a case of wanting to get the decisions right — right for the com-panies concerned, right for Europe, right for UK competition policy and principally right for consumers.

Yesterday's talks, fulsomely described by the DTI as "constructive", are far from the last word on either issue. All sides are sticking to their guns. But all sides would like the cases to be resolved. In such cases, it is axiomatic for all those involved to deny hotly any possibility of an agreement to resolve the issues, usually at the very moment such agreements are being timing may look right for just such a

service. When the business's

resources grew, Richer invited

new employees to three-day

training sessions at his home in York. During the training, they could play tennis, bad-

minton and snooker, and also

had access to a cinema, a disco

In spite of Richer's success,

Donaghy is aware that many

management techniques are

still seen as gimmicks. This

has led satirical television

shows such as The Day Today

and The Saturday Night Ar-

mistice to parody gurus such

one sketch from The

Day Today, employees learnt how to deal with

stress by having to look

after a live pig which was released into their office. In

The Saturday Night Armistice

unwitting employees from an

unnamed company were sent to a spoof conference to play

surreal and pointless games.
"We do fun things,"

Donaghy says. "You can call them gimmicks or whatever

you want, but under the

surface there is improved cus-

tomer service. For example,

customer service, and if you

as Richer.

and a swimming pool.

There is no such thing as a free capital market

for the last appearance of this sceptical column, First Milton Friedman, the high priest of market economics, denounced economic and monetary union as fatal to the whole EU enterprise, and called for the abolition of the Internationd Monetary Fund, which. he said, has had no raison d'étre since the collapse of

Bretton Woods in 1971. The IMF is trying to invent a new role for itself: the liberator of capital markets. But before this was even made official, George Soros, the great practitioner, denounced free capital markets as the source of crises. But according to Dr Mahathir Mohamad, of Malaysia, crises are caused by currency traders - George Soros in particular. Soros evened the score by denouncing Dr

Mahathir. All good clean fun, you may think: but there are

points here. The arguments about EMU are familiar to any reader of but those about free

markets in currencies and capital are newish. The free international flow of investment capital has, as the International Monetary Fund argues, been a great agent of development, setting up new industries both in the third world and in bombed-out ex-Communist economies. This is direct investment the building of factories and

come top of the league you get the use of the Rolls-Royce for a week. But it's also the recognition of staff that's important." Richer Consulting advises on all aspects of customer service, from strategy and planning to measurement. It also helps customers to set up reward schemes, suggestion schemes and to improve internal communication.

But Donaghy recognises that customer service also means more than just a friendly sales assistant. "We believe in the integrity of the product and the processes and friendliness with which it is delivered," she says.

"It's also about the quality, reliability and serviceability of the product. There is no point in someone telling you, with a big smile on their face, that they can't give you the product you want." what Soros seems to suggest; but it is too simple. Direct investors naturally demand control, and are often accused of insensitivity to local needs, or even of neo-colonialism. Cut off stock market flows, and you may hamper the growth of local enterprise. And there is a further complication: the important crises have occurred only in countries which were trying to manage their exchange rates. It was not George Soros who caused the sterling crisis of 1992, but Britain's membership of the ERM. Nearly all the recent crises have been in countries pegged to the

And currency crises are not the only problem. The speculative excesses that have now boiled over in Thailand happened because local developers could raise finance at cheap US or

Japanese inwith no ap-6 Nearly all parent exchange risk. recent crises low because have been in first the US countries and then Japan cut them pegged to mestic bankthe dollar 9 ing crises. Thus policies that may be

necessary in one economy may prove ruinous in another. This is Friedman's fundamental point against the EMU project. Perhaps the answer is that market problems demand a market solution - not an International Monetary Fund package (Friedman again), but the risk involved

sinking of mines; it might when exchange rates are have taken a generation or more if left to domestic not to create risk, but to saving and lending as its make inherent risk apparonly sources of finance. ent. A direct investor may Free trade in securities get his timing or location looks like part of the same wrong: a fluctuating exchange rate will preach caupicture: access to foreign wealth, but for native entertion. A foreign stockholder prise. True; but these flows may imagine that he can always sell out exchange have also created obstinate problems, and not just in the risk underlines the losses third world. Even the stronthat could be involved. Ecogest, Germany and Switzer-land, have been driven to nomic development depends on people ready to take risk: but it also deinvent special taxes to dismands that they should be courage inflows: they threated inflation, or currenwary. So the free movement cy over-valuation, or both. of capital will work best only Singapore and Malaysia when exchange rates are have had similar problems. free to move, too. (This And when the tide turns to would leave George Soros ebb. panic may set in, as the without any profitable cri-Mexicans, the Thais and ses; but the man is a philanmany others know by now. thropist, after all.) And so: a fond (though not Markets may be free, but they can be costly.

final) farewell to my readers. Future columns will be long-

How to become a Richer guru and actually boost business

Chris Ayres on the way a hi-fi retailer became a leading

management

consultant

asil Fawity would have hated Julian Richer. The 38-yearold founder of the Richer Sounds hi-fi chain would not have allowed Basil to bully his waiters, mention the war, or shout at his

Richer would have told the ratty hotel manager to hire a Rolls-Royce for his staff or to give them free holidays as a reward for hard work, and he would have made Basil measure the performance of his hotel by customer service.

Such schemes have not only helped Richer to build a personal fortune of more than £50 million through his own retail chain, but have also made him famous in the world of management training. His advice has been sought by some of Britain's leading companies, including Asda, Sears

Richer, whose hi-fi shops business holds the world record for having an outlet with the highest sales per square foot, recently put his maverick ideas on management style into a book called

30 A 1 11 74.

The book is becoming mandatory reading for holidaying executives - Rod Aldridge. chairman of the £500 million outsourcing group Capita. was recently spotted clutch ing a copy as he left the country for his annual

The success of the book encouraged Richer to set up Richer Consulting late last year. As a newcomer in a sector already oversupplied



with firms aiming to sell advice, this one is making a rapid impact. Already it has secured contracts with a diverse range of customers, from tiny unlisted businesses to multinational corporations.

"We are interested in how to motivate people, measure service and reward it. Then we can create an enjoyable experience for the customer," says Kate Donaghy, who set up the consultancy with Richer. "Many companies feel they are working financially but missing something with their customers. We have worked with a leisure park which had found that people's jobs were unclear, and we helped them sort that out. Then we put in measurement techniques for how people were paid."

Donaghy, a former lawyer. became interested in management after founding a head-hunting business. Richmond and Co, in the early 1990s. She met Richer after listening to him give a talk on management to staff at Asda. His ideas and enthusiasm inspired her to write to him giving him her support, and within weeks they had met and become

friends. But Donaghy is not a typical Richer Consulting employee. All the company's eight direc-tors are former Richer Sounds sales assistants, and many of

☐ OH DEAR. On dear. I real-

ly shouldn't be allowed to

write about sport. Damion Griffiths, bond dealer at Can-

tor Fitzgerald, has contacted

me, more in sorrow than in

anger, to point out that Rob

Kitchin, one of his colleagues,

is not only a scrum half, rather than fly half as I suggested

yesterday, but he has also not

been posted abroad. Indeed

he was sitting but 20 feet away

from Griffiths when we spoke.

As I reported, Cantors has

pulled out of this weekend's

Reuters rugby sevens. The

tournaments has given rise to

endless rumours about ring-ers being slipped in, which

Griffiths indignantly denies

and puts down to envy. This

year's no-show is blamed on a

series of injuries sustained at

tournaments abroad - these

guys take their rughy serious-

ly. Plus "a certain amount of

anathy" and the rival attrac-

them, like Richer himself. have not been to university. Richer avoided higher edu-

cation because he found he could make more money from selling hi-fis than going to his college in Bristol. He left school with three A

levels and went on to borrow £20,000 to open his first Richer Sounds outlet at London Bridge. The company soon became financially successful and renowned for its customer



"As soon as you see the jobcentre I want you to do tions of something called the

Bank deposit

JOHN MCFARLANE, the the wake of the Indian scanhigh-flyer whose departure from Standard Chartered surprised us all in February, has bounced nicely. The man who left because, as chairman Patrick Gillam put it then: "John now feels that he can make a more strategic role elsewhere", has done just that, reemerging as chief executive officer and pretty well lord of all he surveys at Australia and New Zealand Bank, one of the big four down under. McFarlane, in one of those careers that makes me wonder why I persist with my own, was drafted in to Standard Chartered from Citibank in 1993 in



Patrick Gillam saw a more strategic role for McFarlane

dal. He now whizzes off to Melbourne. At the age of 50. We always thought that McFarlane left Standard Chartered after being tipped the wink that he would not get the chief executive's job. His former colleagues were being payoff to compensate for this crushing disappointment. but he did leave with options worth £1.5 million potentially. It's a dog's life in investment banking.

☐ IT WAS always a misconceived idea of the strictly mutual Britannia Building Society to try to squash Jon Massey, publisher of The Carpetbagger's Accomplice, by kicking him out and closing his account. All this achieved was to give him more prominence than some might say he deserves. Now Massey has put two fingers up to them by dedicating the third edition of the booklet to the Britannia.

Run riot

FROM Bank tube station. cross Cornhill and cut down to Lombard Street. Can you see a dull grey office block"? Down towards Cannon Street, by my reckoning, which probably makes it to the east of St

a similar journey into the un-THE known. A Swampy-like environmental protester, he is forced to shave off his dreadlocks and take up a job in the City, for reasons too complex to detain us here. The idea came from a genuine character Stock met on his explorations, a middle-class drop-out activist who is now a successful forex dealer - and is now worried that his past life will one day be revealed.

Swithins Lane. The actual dealing room is dingy and low-ceilinged (aren't they all?) containing 15, maybe 20, traders. The only other clue I have is the carpet, "cheap blue and tiled". Not much to go on, but if you can identify this foreign exchange dealer, you know where Jon Stock did the re-

search for his first novel The

Riot Act. Stock, a stranger to the world of the City, was smuggled into two forex dealing rooms last year as part of his research for the thriller, published this week. He is therefore honour-bound not to reveal which dealers, but one at least matches the above description. "A mate of mine let me come in and sit on the dealing room floor for a while to pick up on the banter." he

His central character makes

Touché

highly paid consultants screw up? My day was ruined by the news of Deloitte & Touche's illadvised decision to revamp their own pension scheme in the US. Deloitte has a good reputation there as pensions adviser. Its employees were promised improvements in pensions benefits and almost all 14,000 signed up. Afterwards they got their calculators out — and found that payouts would fall by as much as 70 per

cent. Staff are furious, and head bean-counters deeply embarrassed. God knows what the clients think. MARTIN WALLER

an emergency stop"



So: direct investment is a

blessing, but the global secu-

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The ring of confidence for today's businesses

'Customer

service is now

part of the

vocabulary in

Britain'

any large organisation these days, it is likely that your call will terminate at a call centre. where there will be staff dedicated ing calls. Examples of this include British Telecom's directory and other inquiry services, mail order catalogues, British Gas and other utilities, airline reservations, and train travel inquiries.

Call centres are no longer exclusively the province of large organsations. There are now many bureaux able to provide such a service for a company, on a

temporary or per-manent basis. Telephone numbers can be allocated for paign or indefinitey. They are usually 0800 or 0500 numbers, which means they are free to the caller, or 0345 numers, which means the caller pays only

bureaux are usually running services for a number of companies, staff answering the calls are prompted to make the appropriate reply by the computer system which is integrated with the telephone switchboard (PBX). As a call comes in, the number dialled is recognised by the system and an appropriate script appears on the creen in front of an operator.

Given the prompt, the operator then says: "Thank you for calling De Luxe Wedding Cakes, how can I help you?", or "Hello, this is Money Unlimited Bank, I understand you are inquiring about a loan. Could we start with your name and

By the time the call has been put

arrive simultaneously.

staff know whether they have someone who is having trouble paying their bill or someone whose order has gone astray. If a call needs to be transferred to another department, then again the call and relevant computer record are trans-

ferred simultaneously. The cost of establishing call centres with computer and tele-phone integration (CTI) is falling rapidly, enabling smaller organ-isations to take advantage of these

services. The first call centres were based on massive installations, tailortion they had to serve. Now they can be constructed from standard products, which, to a great extent, can be mixed and matched. Software

is readily available to hitch up personal computers on a local area network to the company's PBX. This is helping to fuel the boom in the deployment of call

At present it is estimated that about I per cent of the working population is employed in call centres. The figure in the United States is 3 per cent and the UK is expected to reach that figure by 2000, yet advances in technology do not fully explain why companies are so keen on call centres, or why about half of all the call centres in Europe are found in the UK. Michael McGinn of PBX-maker

Mitel adds more flesh to the argument, saying: "Consumers get a higher level of service. Their calls are dealt with quickly and efficient-



a way it wasn't 12 or 13 years ago, partly because customers demand so much more now. A good way of providing better service is through call centres and especially the use of

computer telephony integration."

The London-based consultancy Schema reckons that the integration of computing and telephone technology will grow from its present position in Europe as a \$100 million business, to a billiondollar business by 2000.

There are several other factors, but one that many companies do not like to dwell on is that call centres allow them to reduce staff needed to deal with customers. Neil Boxer of Lucent Technology says: "Having installed call centre infrastructure, why wait for customers to call you only when something has gone wrong or to place an order? Agents should make outbound calls to follow up queries or complaints. Companies should use call centres and their staff to find out as much as they can about their customers and what they want." The UK was one of the first coun-

Top: the Pan-European Communications Centre at Milton

telecoms industry. In the early plier, BT. Now there are more than 150 companies licensed to provide telecoms services. This has resulted in competition, falling prices, innovation and flexibility

Keynes and, above, Tony Blair in a teleconference with voters tries in Europe to liberalise its well as 0345 numbers are widely available to companies, and cost only a fraction of the equivalent charges in many European coun-tries which still rely on a monopoly operator. This has led to overseas companies establishing call centres here to take advantage of our WOUL CALL TE ME BIOMETE

NEW Labour embraced new technology when Tony Blair put on a Tristar headset from Plantronics to host the UK's first teleconference between a politician and members of the public. In the run-up to the election, more than 3,000 voters joined

Mr Blair to discuss Labour Party policy during three 20minute teleconferences, made possible by the combined re-sources of ACT, BT Conference Call and Darome.

It was the first time that a politician had communicated

directly in an open forum with members of the public on such a scale and the response was overwhelming. More than 147,000 voters attempted to call during the teleconference. Questions were asked on a first-come first-served basis and all participants were able to listen to Mr Blair's responses. Mr Blair's comfort and con-

centration were assisted during that at just 12 grams, the Tristar headset is the lightest available for use all day.

A good example is computer peripherals manufacturer Tektronix. It operates in many European countries, but chose the Merchants Group based in Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, to operate a call centre. Staff, fluent in at least two languages, take calls from throughout Europe on behalf of

Tektronix. A caller from, say Helsinki, simply makes a local charge call to the centre in Britain where the inquiry is dealt with.

Call centres will be deployed more widely across Europe as telecoms are liberalised, but it will be some years before Britain's popularity as a site will be rivalled.

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Talking you

Don't keep your callers in 'voice-mail jail'

call centres could mean freedom for those who get trapped in voice-mail jail - where an automated system fails to deal with their query but does not connect them to an operator.

Bill Mieran, chairman of the Telecom Users' Association, says: "We get com-plaints from customers about being asked to hold by an automated message, then spending ten minutes waiting to talk to an operator before hanging up in frustration. People say they would prefer an engaged tone, as they are paying for the call.

The problem is usually caused because the call centre has insufficient staff. Unless dealt with, this groundswell of customer complaints could the call centre The association is working

with the Call Centre Association, a national professional body representing 150 call centres, in putting together a new code of practice. Linley French, the CCA's business manager says: " Most call centres say they aim to answer 95 per cent of calls within ten seconds, but how many achieve these targets? Do they start counting from when the phone first rings or from the point where the customer chooses the first option? How many calls are abandoned when the customer gets fed up with holding?"

Poor communications between a firm's departments can be the cause of problems for customers. Mr French explains: "Sometimes a marketing department doesn't tell the call centre it is doing a big mail-out. We encourage our members to improve internal communications so that they can adjust staff levels for busy

"After all, if another company can answer calls more quickly than they can, the customer will go there. We also encourage our members to have in place a communications channel, so that customer complaints can be noted

Sue Spenceley Burch on the need for a call-centre code of practice

to improve customer service

England, Seeboard, the elec-

trical supplier for the region,

had to cope with widespread

power failures caused by light-

million people -- would expect

During most storms, the

particular storm

math. Seeboard

received 24,700

calls in 24 hours,

reaching a high

of 2,950 an hour.

used a recorded

message which

informed cust-

omers about sup-

The company

ning and floods.

A survey from business telecommunications specialists Energis claims that companies which do not answer their calls quickly enough are losing millions of pounds each year. It revealed that 10 per cent of all incoming calls go unanswered by large busito receive 5,000 to 15,000 nesses; smaller companies emergency calls from customfare slightly bet-

ter, at around 6 'Centres aim per cent. Call centre technology, used properto answer 95 ly, enables companies to be far per cent of more effective at dealing with incalls in ten coming calls, To help cal seconds' centres to find

British Telecom's call centre subsidiary, Connections in Business, has developed a research tool called Satisfactel. Researchers phone customers within 24 hours of them contacting the call centre and take them through a detailed questionnaire. It reveals what the

customer expected, how wel the service matched up and how their experience of calling the centre has affected their attitude towards the company.

on Reynolds, head of

sales and client services

at Connections in Busi-

ness, says: "Our own

research shows that older

people are more uncomfort-

able about automated systems

and leaving messages, but are

becoming increasingly familiar with the technology. Youn-

ger, more technology-aware

people say that they don't

mind an automated service if

the application is fairly

straightforward. They see it as

Automated services can be useful in helping a company

todeal with a large volume of

calls. During August, when

violent and unexpected electrical storms hit the South of

efficient."

ply failures it was already dealing with, encouraging them to end their call unless reporting a new Staff on shift were able to cope with those customers who needed to speak to an operator, while other staff

were brought in to enable

cent of calls within 20 second The recorded message was continually updated with new information and, once each ang customers they had spoken to, to ensure that their power was back on. Every customer had their supply restored within 24 hours.

Seeboard uses a Siemens iSDX network and BT lines. It company - which serves 4.6 connects the customer service application to the iSDX switch with Rostrum software from rovalblue. ers. During this

Large volumes of calls can also be expected when a company advertises on TV and includes a hotline number. Jon Reynolds says: "In this type of situation you tend to get a huge influx in a very short time - up to 500 simultaneous be cost-effective to handle all has to be a combination of live and automatic answering." The problems which cus-

tomers encounter with call centres stem, he believes, from companies using the technology to make up for under-"Wallpapering over the cracks just makes things ogy should be used for the right reasons, not just superfi-



During August's electrical storm Seeboard received 24,700 calls in 24 hours — peaking at around 2,950 per hour

Talking your way into a good job

tres is producing jobs for people with right skills, Sue Spenceley Burch writes.
The Merchants Group is

one of Europe's largest call centre consultancies, with 450 agents at its Milton Keynes headquarters. Its director of human resources, Cheryl Clifford, explains what she looks for when recruiting.

"Certain basic attributes are common to all good call centre agents - the ability to articulate clearly and to control and direct a conversation." she says. "Real listening skills are also vital - plus the ability to read between the lines and develop rapport and empathy with the caller. We current-

handle a project on the subject of birth control and we screened job applicants very carefully for their ability to handle such a sensitive issue. There is also

an increasing demand for people with lan-Мегchants Group runs an international help-desk for Tektronix

colour printers, covering 43 countries. Calls are handled in ten languages. Around 10 per cent of Merchants Group's staff are non-UK nationals handling calls in their mother tongue, with a further 27 per cent of staff being UK nationals with language

To ensure that they are working effectively. centre staff are subject to intense scrutiny. In some centres supervisors listen to live calls during training sessions. A new quality control system for call centres - NiceAudit, produced by Nice Systems Ltd — uses digital voice recording and evaluation software. Managers record calls, play them back and use them for

training. Working in a call centre is demanding, with a great deal of pressure to perform well at all times - someor even abusive customers. trains staff to control their moods and emotions. Otherwise the effects of a stressful call may be visited on the next caller.

Recent research has revealed discontent among staff working in some call centres. A Calcom survey found that only 40 per cent of those surveyed said mo-rale was high in their workplace. More than half spent 90 per cent of their time on the phone and said this led to boredom and frustration.

While two thirds said they received regular positive feedback on their performance, some said they only had feedback when it was negative.

Another common complaint was the lack of

ex-

career opportunities, because call centres often have very flat structures. Ben White, of Calcom, a telebusiness consultancy specialising in call

centres, plains: "Lots of Cheryl Clifford: listening skills

businesses have leapt into call centres. The survey highlighted gaps where investment is needed in training and development of operators and managers.

The focus is often on developing systems and product knowledge, but a call centre's main resource is its people. Often managers are moved into the call centre from elsewhere in the business and their people skills may be overlooked. Managers need to bear in mind that phone work can be routine and a motivational environment is essential."

Calcom surveyed were also unhappy about pay - recent research by the Merchants Group found that salary levels for call centre agents average around £11,800 a year. During the next five years. Cheryl Clifford expects salaries to increase in line with the more demanding skills required.

Two thirds of those

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How the regions plugged in

Susan Gray looks at call centre job growth around the country

rom chasing up a parking fine in North London to ordering a mail-order CD from Virgin, telephone users are finding that call centres, often based in remote parts of the UK regions, are playing an increasing role in our lives.

Call centres are also playing a vital role in the economies of many parts of the British Isles from Lasgair in the Western Isles to Telford New Town between Birmingham and the Welsh Marches, By its nature the teleservices industry is highly mobile, and British regions are competing with other areas of Europe, especially The Netherlands and the Irish Republic, as well as the Asia Pacific region and India, where

labour is cheaper.

John Poore, the senior press officer with Highlands and Islands Enterprise, covering half the land mass of Scotland, says: "Our people are highly skilled, highly educated, flexible and loyal. We are looking at the value-added end of the market that is less prone to fluctuations. We cannot compete with the Asia Pacific region on wages, therefore we do the cerebral work such as designing the software that makes teleservices information technology work."

Robert Hartley, the director of Telford Development Agency, says that in attracting call centres re-gions should not try to be all things to all men. In August Telford announced it had attracted 450 jobs at the new Talking Pages call centre, joining Sunlight Services, dealing with commercial laundry, and the charity, People's Dispen-

sary for Sick Animals.
"Telford has a good reputation as a manufacturing centre, with the highest concentration of Japanese and Taiwanese companies in the UK." he says. "We felt we had the people, buildings and IT infrastructure to go for a segment of the call centre market. Many of these companies want to be up and running quickly and Telford can offer the training support that enables them to do that.

We are not going to get the 1,000





Making light work of those old heavy headsets

LIGHTWEIGHT, ergonomic, easy-to-wear headsets are taken for granted in today's call centres. But early headsets in use in the 1950s, like the one pictured above left, weighed 1.2lb - roughly equivalent to wearing today's standard business telephone around your

"Obviously the major benefit was to allow telephone operators to have both hands free to use the switchboard," said Wendy Chaimers

Mill, a physiotherapist, when asked her opinion of the ergonomic aspects of the development in headset weights. "However, it is possible that the old-style design could have had some potentially damaging effects upon the operator's posture. Most of the 1.2lb weight would be taken by the neck and upper

"If you look clusely at the photograph, the weight of the headset is pulling the upper

body forward, outside its normal centre of gravity, which could affect the spinal muscles and joints in the long term." In the 1960s, the headset evolved into a

slightly less cumbersome model weighing just over half a pound — equivalent to the combined weight of two mobile telephones.

Today, Plantronic's lightest headset, the TribStar, pictured right, weights just 12 grams — not much more than a ballpoint pen.

ton, Newcastle and Doncaster because we just have not got the population to supply them with staff. Nor do we see multilingual call centres as a natural market because large cities are far better placed to deal with international ries show the strategy is working."
With the Irish Republic, the clients. But we are looking at medium-size cali centre operations of up to 500 jobs which we will

"The location of Telford is a key factor, as we are only 30 minutes from Birmingham, but can offer greenfield sites and a superb stan-

attract by being realistic.

dard of living. The PDSA chose Telford because it was central for staff from their 40 animal hospitals. Call centres located here find it easy to draw in partners and clients from all over the UK. New inqui-

doyen of teleservices, just across the Irish Sea, Tim Bagshaw, the project manager of the Merseyside Partnership, is equally realistic on the call centres that Liverpool can hope to attract. Mr Bagshaw wanted to build on the long-established call centre presence in Liverpool of Littlewoods mail order, Barclays and McKintyre and King.

"As Liverpool has established experience, we asked companies why they were here. The reasons were cost-effective labour, the availability and adaptability of staff and people's attitude. The warmth of the average Merseysider struck a rapport with customers.

ireland has been very successful in bringing in investment. They have provided, to some extent, best practice, but there is a limit to the number of call centres that an area such as Dublin can contain.

We see ourselves as an emerging call centre market, attracting people such as BT's Euro Charge Card, employing groups of 12 people to deal with different countries of Europe in their own language. Different people, different skills." Mr Bagshaw concludes. In Leeds, home of the telephone

bank First Direct, 70 per cent of the economy comes from the financial services industry, and call centres will create 2,000 jobs this year.

Norstar which does just this.

Four hundred have been in-

stalled in the past three years.

Richard Peers of Microsoft

to the call centre market.

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SETTING UP

Selling direct

has to be

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the cost

The ingredients of a call centre are simple enough: a suitable building, the right sort of phone and computer system and some well-trained people to answer the calls. What is it about this combination that has turned Littlewoods from a mail order to a phone order company? What is it that has reduced the ratio of staff per account by a factor of ten to one in some banks? Call centre magic? Not magic, simply an efficient use of skilled people through the

ability to measure and manage the business support process. Selling insurance direct has to be a good thing if you can sell the same number of policies at half the cost. Direct selling has been an ongoing

revolution for some time -- it would be almost impossible without the call centre's ability to handle vast numbers of calls efficiently.
The evolution of the

call centre within a company is not difficult to trace. The comoften starts business by phone by using the existing PBX. It soon becomes

apparent that the PBX loses lots of calls because agents are busy. Out goes the PBX in favour of a system that queues the calls and that lets you know what's going on. It is then clear that most of the agents' time is spent updating records. The whole process is then

computerised and some software is bought that is easy to use. The company now has a modern call centre; the next stage is to tie the phone system and the computing system together. This is where CTI (computer telephony integration) comes in. The agents get information on screen when they need it - popped up as the calls arrive. Call durations reduce. and difficult calls can be transferred, with their data screens, to someone

more able to deal with them. Both efficiency and customer service have improved; which is the more important? A recent survey by the Merchants Group showed

that 36 per cent of call centre managers thought that customer service was their number one driver. However. 35 per cent of the 100 call centres involved in the exercise rated increased revenues number one. Fortunately, CTI can satisfy both needs - and supply better management information. Call centres are famous for their ability to flood managers' desks with statistics. In bringing together telephone and computer reports, CTI can make this data useful. In addition to CTI, an interactive

voice response system can be installed to automate some of the work and provide 24-hour service. Callers have to respond to the system by pressing buttons on their phones, but this will

soon be supplemented by speech recognition technology. Meanwhile, many

customers are joining the million or so Internet users in the UK. They want direct access to the company from their screens, bypassing the call centre. Fedex claimed to have saved itself up to \$500,000 each month by provid-

ing direct access to parcel tracking information in this way. But some Net users still want to talk to the call centre when things get tough. A "call me" button is provided on the company's Web page.

Business has increased, but the call centre has now shrunk. Some

agents work from home, logging in to the centre when they wish to, or being asked to take overflow calls.

Is this the end of the evolutionary line? No; the IT department finds a new system. Here the phone and computer systems are reduced to one small box. And the agents no longer need a separate phone and PC: the PC has a wireless link to their headsets. The box has swallowed the interactive voice machine and can spit out faxes and e-mails at the touch of a button. The company buys it - and then moves the call centre into one small room.

ROB WALTERS

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TO FUNCTION effectively. call centres need networks that carry information, be it from main computers to oper-

The faster an individual screen can capture data, the greater the range of calls and queries the operator is able to deal with. As networking grows more complex, operators in call centres are more able to act as one-stop shops, accessing data from many mation a customer requires.

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based managing director of European operations at the Swiss-owned Ascom Timeplex, says: "The key to a call centre is that it can pursue information down many routes. A bank, for example, will need operators to offer information on savings, pensions, mortgages, insurance and lending, to name but a few, together with current

changing the way people work. More employees are in direct contact with the customer. Their access to more complex information reduces the need for specialists.

Ascom was one of the first companies to supply networking to call centres, there are now four or five leading companies in the business. The information it supplies to British Telecom includes the

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Mr Shaw says that tres to operate from rural areas. "An operator working from home with a regional accent is often seen as offering the most friendly service to customers," he says.

Organisations are using call centres to set up where labour costs are lower. One mobile telephone company. for example, services all its Far East inquiries from China, where wages are low.

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MORE and more smaller companies are discovering the

Many call centres are dedi-

queries. All help desk agents have their favourite tales of faults cured by gently telling the frantic callers where the on/off button for their printer/fax machine or appli-

EXHIBITIONS

TECHNOLOGY for current and future applications of computer telephony integra-tion (CII) will be featured at the sixth annual Voice Europe xhibition at Olympia 2 from October 7 to 9.

ing. The programme includes four conferences, with more than 80 speakers. A Call Centre tutorial is being staged on October 6 and a symposium on speech recognition on October 6 and 7.

Guest speakers at a three-

Don't panic, sir. Try switching on

marketability of customer service, Rob Walters writes.

cated to support, where calls are routed to service engineers, most of whom are on the road. At one extreme lies support operations such as the Microsoft help desks. At the other lies the small company that sells PC networks to companies similar in size.

Most of the calls are simple

At the large end, call centres re usually based upon specialised telephone systems called automatic call distribution (ACDs). At the small end the business is usually based on a key system. Here the ACD functions are added by connecting a PC with specialised software to the system. BT distributes an ACD system for

More than 200 companies from 14 countries are exhibit-

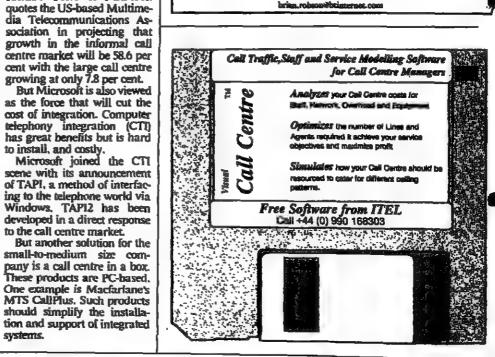
day computer telephony/-voice congress will include Richard Peers, business devdopment manager for Microsoft UK, and Tom Schuster, managing director of Novell

Later in the season, from November 24 to 26, is the TMA 30 Convention at Brighton. The conference that runs alongside it is expected to attract some 1,000 delegates from the ranks of top corporate management and will be chaired on successive days by Peter Sissons, Anna Ford and Jeremy Paxman. Speakers inchude Sir Peter Boufield, chief Cruickshank, Oftel's regula-



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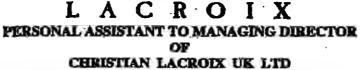
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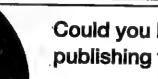
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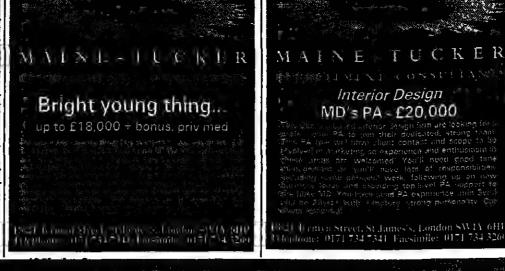
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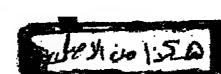
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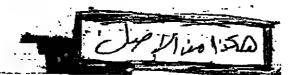
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Secretarial Positions

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A highly efficient executive secretary is required for a challenging position in SW1. You will need excellent knowledge of MS Office and at least three years' experience of working at a senior level. Working hours are 8.30am to 6.30pm, and the candidate will be a committed individual who can communicate at all levels, work to strict deadlines and perform under pressure. Salary £22,000 plus paid overtime.

Please contact David on 0171 589 2446. Ref: TCPR/001

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A shorthand secretary with advanced knowledge of Word for Windows and PowerPoint, and a typing speed of at least 80wpm is required for a busy legal department based in SW1. The ideal candidate will have four years' experience, be highly organised and have the ability to work to strict deadlines. Salary £19,000.

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My Rolf Harris serenade

way up by sheer determination. and Irna Imran, aged 30. is one of them. She was born in England, but studied in a convent school in Pakistan until she was ten, switching to secondary school in Bradford,

She remembers the brother of a convent schoolfriend telling her: "If you can type, you will never be out of work" and, as a teenager, she taught herself keyboard skills with the aid of library books.

Ms Imran also armed herself with eight O levels and temped as a secretary, which gave her all-round experience in audio typing and wordprocessing packages. "At the time," she says, "I was also doing part-time research connected with the Asian community for Yorkshire Television."

Her ambition was to work for BBC Television in London, where the most interesting jobs were. It would be difficult, she soon realised, because the jobs were first advertised internally in Ariel, the staff newspaper. So she paid for copies to be sent to

her and began applying.
She says: "I concentrated on those in production, hoping for something like Top of the Pops." Her perseverance paid off. "It took me six months before I got a job. in 1994, on QED, the BBCI documentary programme. I worked as a production secreHundreds of secretaries want to work in television.

Irna Imran talks to Joan Llewelyn Owens about getting the kind of position that many dream of but few achieve

tary to the unit manager and the commissioning editor. They interviewed quite a few people, and I was appointed because of the way I coped with the test. This involved prioritising tasks. I was faced with a filing tray containing letters to be answered, messages requiring action, faxes to be sent and documents to be filed. I had to write down what I

would do first, and why.
"At the end of the interview. they asked: 'Anything else?' I said that I really wanted the job and would do my very best for them." She also told them how in her kitchen at home her spice jars were all labelled and set out in rows, and her friends always commented on how well organised she was.

Ms Imran told her interviewers: "Can you imagine what I'm going to be like once you are paying me? The statio-nery cupboard will be as neat and tidy as my kitchen cup-board."

As a production secretary, Ms Imran dealt with mail and phone calls, kept the diary and a scrapbook of cuttings, typed schedules for programmes, kept track of everything and everybody, and made sure that all deadlines were met.

and when the crews were working nights or weekends I would volunteer to provide coffee or to help with crowd control. One day the woman who was

The stationery cupboard will be as neat as my kitchen cupboard,

I told the interviewer

doing Animal Hospital said to me: I am going to give you the nicest job. You can look after Rolf Harris. Then, Animal Hospital went out on BBCI three times a day - live - for five days. The first show was at noon, and so had to be at the first production meeting at 7am.We often worked a 16-hour day. My boss gave me a free rein, and I helped to set up our production office near the hospital in North

She recalls: "I let my bosses "I had been a little nervous about know I was interested in filming. meeting Rolf Harris, but he was wonderful, and did lots of drawings for us. I had to make sure a car was sent for him. provide tea when he arrived and get his lunch.



Harris: "He was wonderful"

"One day he asked: 'Can you speak Urdu? When I said I could, he got down on one knee and serenaded me with a song from an Indian film.

"When I asked him where he had learnt it, he told me that when he was in India, unable to speak one of the local languages. he asked someone to teach him a song that would help him to break down barriers."

After her stint on Animal Hospital, Ms Imran was sent on

the BBC's training scheme and promoted to production assistant (PA), the producer's shadow, handling a budget of perhaps £50,000 or £100,000 and in charge of deciding how the money should be spent.

She worked on QED and Hospital Watch, but eventually decided to leave the BBC and to read for a degree in Urdu and Development Studies at the School of Oriental and African Studies in Central London.

For several years she had been working with the Bradford Heritage Recording Unit, which aims to build up an archive of the community in pictures and words. Ninety per cent of the Pakistani community in Eng-land are from Mirpur, she says, and to help with this archive she has recently gone there with a photographer to interview its

On her return, she helped to set up an exhibition, called Home from Home, which was shown first in Bradford, is now in Birmingham and is due this month to go to Batley in west Yorkshire (for details, tel: 01274 631756).

Everything I did for other people as a secretary, I apply to the way I organise my life now," she says. I am very busy, and time management and the ability to prioritise are an important part of my work."

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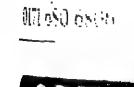
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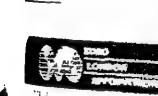
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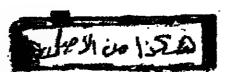
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Credit for time spent on remand

Haverigg Prison, Ex parte McMahon Before Mr Justice Sedley and Mr Justice Astill

Reasons August 22 Where an offender was remanded at the same time for related offences which were subsequently tried and sentenced separately, the time spent on remand which was not credited against the first sentence could be used to reduce the amount of time actually spent in prison serving the second sentence. It was undesirable that there

should be split sentencing of offences which belonged together, since that was capable of creating injustice to defendants as well as

multiplying public expense.
The Queen's Bench Divisional
Court so held giving reasons for
having greaters. having granted a writ of habeas corpus on August 19 to Anthony Joseph McMahen in respect of his continued imprisonment at Haverigg for assault and intimidation.

Mr Martin Scorjoo for the applicant; Miss Eleanor Grey for

MR JUSTICE SEDLEY said the applicant had committed two assaults on a woman on June 27, 1996, for which he was arrested and granted bail. While on bail, on

V Governor of October 17 and 20, he had committed further acts of intimidation and assault on the same woman. He was arrested for those and for breach of his bail conditions on October 21 and remanded in custody on all offences.

The initial assaults had been ried before the justices on February 3, 1997 and the applicant had been imprisoned for 120 days. By virtue of section 33 of the Criminal Justice Act 1991 he was entitled to be released unconditionally at the expiry of half that time. He had spent 105 days in custody

by the date he was sentenced, which was more than sufficient to extinguish the 60 days he was to serve, although 15 days short of the full period imposed. He was thus entitled to be released immediately The applicant was returned to custody to await his trial at Liverpool Crown Court on the remaining offences. On March 24, 1997, after another 49 days in

totalling 15 months imprisonment, that is, 457 days.

By section 33 the time he was entitled to be released unconditionally after serving 229 days. A further 49 days, representing the crown court trial, also fell to be subtracted, giving a net period in

custody, he was sentenced to terms

custody of 179 days which would for which the applicant remained have emoired on September 19. at risk should be re-offend of being

But the applicant contended that he was also entitled to set against the time spent in custody the 45-day period which was the unused balance of the time spent on remand between October 21, 1996 and February 3, 1997. That would have entitled him to release on August 5.

Split sentencing for offences which belonged together and ought to be the subject of compehensive sentencing was ca-pable of creating injustice to defen-dants as well as multiplying public expense. The problem was recurrent and might increase with pressure on justices to dispose of cases quickly.

There was no reason why the

justices should not have sent the two earlier assaults to the crown court for sentence along with the remaining charges to be tried there. Had that been done, the problem would not have arisen. The instant problem would arise only where an offender was reled in custody simultaneously

in relation to offences which were

statutory purpose. subsequently tried separately. Mr Justice Astill delivered a Miss Grey argued that the 45 remand days unused in relation to concurring judgment. the justices' sentence were used up in reducing to 15 days the period Liverpool; Treasury Solicitor.

Gandiya Mission and Others v Brahmachary and Others all reactional in reviews on orang-returned to prison to serve part or all of the other half of his sentence under section 40 of the 1991 Act. Mr Socrioo maintained that the credit involved was credit against Before Lord Justice Leggatt, Lord Justice Morritt and Lord Justice

[Judgment July 30]

A fair reading of the scheme of the Charities Act 1993, and regard paid to the principle of the implied territoriality of legislation and practical considerations of was not intended or apt to extend to an traduition whose constitution was within the laws of a foreign state. Thus the High Court's charity jurisdiction could only be exercised in relation to those established in England and Wales according to English law.

The Court of Appeal so held allowing the appeal of the Attor-ney-General against the judgment of Mr David Oliver, QC, sitting as a deputy judge of the Chancery Division (The Times April 1, 1997) when he ordered, inter alia, that the Attorney-General should be added to proceedings between the plaintiffs, a registered Indian charity, its president and secretary, and the defendants, Kamalashka DAS Brahamachary, the priest in charge of that charity's London temple, and the trustees of Gaudiya Mission Society Trust, a registered English charity.

Mr William Henderson for the Attorney-General; the plaintiffs were not represented; Mr Ram Yajnik for Kamalaksha DAS Brahamachary.

LORD JUSTICE MUMMERY said that the plaintiff, the mission, maintained preaching centres and temples, known as maths, to spread the doctrines of the Vaishnava faith throughout India, and also in Cricklewood, north-west London. It was registered in India and enjoyed charitable status there but was not registered in England. The present proceedings were part of a battle between rival factions within the mission, also being fought in India. By a deed and declaration of trust the trustees set up a trust under the name Gaudiya Mission Society Trust and that was a registered English charity.

The plaintiffs contended, inter alia, that the assets held by the trust were those of the plaintiffs, that the trust was passing itself off as the mission, and by their writ claimed that the London math, its moneys and funds were the plaintiffs' property, and also injunctions restraining the defendants from conducting the plaintiffs' affairs, using their premises or dealing restrair with their moneys.

His Lordship said that the key question was whether the mission was an institution established for the control of the High Court with respect to charities, within section

96(1) of the 1993 Act. The order of the judge, who had not had the benefit of the more extensive authority cited to the Court of Appeal, was contrary to the correct construction of the Acr, incompatible with established principles and inconsistent with authority.

Territorial limit of Charities Act

The Act was a consolidating Act extending only to England and Wales, with minor exceptions, and contained many detailed provisions for the registration and administration of charities as dehave to take any particular form, but it had to satisfy the require-ments of the definition in section 96(I): "established for charitable purposes" and "subject to the control of the High Court in the exercise of the court's jurisdiction with respect to charities", as defined in section 97(1).

It was not expressly enacted nor was it plainly implied that the Act applied to institutions other than those established for charitable purposes in England and Wales. That was borne out by a survey of the Act's detailed provisions, which were inappropriate for bod-

The importance of such cases was that they showed that the English courts did not have the means of controlling institutions

Trusts (1936) Ch 671).

ies or institutions established out-

Although not a state institution.

a charity was subject to the constitutional protection of the

Crown, as parens patriae, acting

through the Attorney-General, to

the supervision of the charity

English courts had never sought to subject to that regime institu-tions established for public pur-

poses under other legal systems: see Dicey and Morris, The Con-flict of Laws (12th edition (1993) vol

2 pl096) and, for example, Provost, Bailiffs etc of Edinburgh v Aubery

(1753) Amb 256). Attorney-General

v Lepine ((1818) 2 Swan 181), Emery v Hill ((1826) 1 Russ 112), Mayor of Lyons v East India Co ((1836) 1 Moo

PC 175) and In re Marr's Will

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dicial control.

abroad. The decision of the Court of Appeal and the House of Lords in Camille and Henry Dreyfus Foundation Inc v IRC (1954) Ch 672, 683, 683, 707; [1956] AC 39, 46, 47) was binding authority that charity in the 1993 Act did not include an institution established under the laws of another legal system. The obiter dicts of the court in In re Duncan ((1867) 2 Ch App 356, 360, 362) were inconsis-tent with the Henry Dreyfus and

Thus the mission was not a charity within the 1993 Act and the Attorney-General was not a proper

were not a correct statement of the

party to be joined. In the present case, it had been assumed, without deciding, that the purposes of the mission were exclusively charitable under Eng-lish law, there was no intention to restrict the Attorney-General's constitutional role as protector of charity or to prevent the plaintiffs pursuing their proceedings in the absence of the Attorney-General.

Lord Justice Morritt agreed and Lord Justice Leggan gave a concurring judgment.

Solicitors: Treasury Solicitor:

Laudable motives limit copyright damages

Pro Sieben Media AG v Carlton UK Television Ltd and Another

Before Mr Justice Laddie |Judgment July 31|

While the Copyright Designs and Patents Act 1988 laid down specific exceptions to the blanket scope of copyright infringement, laudable motives, for example for educational or public service reasons, for wanting to copy or broadcast any substantial part of protected ma-terial afforded no defence, save only to absolve defendants, if appropriate, from paying additional damages under section 97(2).

Mr Justice Laddie so held in the Chancery Division, in giving judg-ment for the plaintiff, Pro Sieben Media AG, a commercial television company in Germany, against Carlton UK Television Ltd. and Twenty Twenty Television Ltd. an independent production company.

Section 30 of the 1988 Act provides: "(I) Fair dealing with a work for the purposes of criticism or review, of that or another work or of a performance of a work, does not infringe any copyright in the work provided that it is accompaby a sufficient

(2) Fair dealing with a work (other than a photograph) for the pur-

Breton Dogod Grand

does not infringe any copyright in the work provided that ... it is accompanied by a sufficient acknowledgment."

Section 97 provides: "(2) The court may in an action for infringement of copyright having regard to all the circumstances, and in particular to (a) the flagrancy of the infringement, and (b) any benefit accruing to the defendant by reason of the infringement, award such additional damages as the justice of the case may require."

Mr Martin Howe, QC and Miss Charlotte May for the plaintiff: Mr

that in or about March 1996 Mandy Allwood, a single mother, while undergoing a course of fertility treatment, had become pregnant by her boyfriend and been found to carrying eight live

Under guidance, she became besieged with offers from the

programmes, The Big Story, and

Mark Vanhegan for the MR JUSTICE LADDIE said

media, including the plaintiff, a well known German commercial television company which, inter alia, produced a daily, 30-minute, magazine programme called "TAFF". The upshot was a grant to the plaintiff of the exclusive right to exploit a filmed interview of her poration in two satellite TAFF programmes on August 27 and 28. Carlton had commissioned Twenty Twenty to make for it a series of 25-minute current affairs

on August 29 hopadeast one such. "Selling Babies", which incor-porated a 30-second clip recorded from one of those TAFF pronmes; all without the know ledge of the plaintiff, or Ms Allwood, or her public relations The issues were:

Were the defendants protected by the defence of fair dealing for the purposes of (a) criticism or review, under section 30(1), or (b) reporting current events, under section 30(2)? 2 If not, was this a case for additional damages under section 97(2)? Section 30(I): Criticism or review

The defendants had failed to show that their display, in that clip, of the plaintiff's logo, just recognisable as a figure 7, the name "Pro Sieben" not being mentioned at any point in "Selling Babies", would be understood as referring to any person, let alone his connection with the clip. Hence it had not been accompanied by a sufficient acknowledgment and thur defence failed. But in addition, having studied

dence given by Ms Dorothy Byrne. its editor, his Lordship was not persuaded that criticism of the TAFF film, as distinct from the plaintiff's decision to pay for an interview, was in the editor's when her film was made or broadcast. its primary purposes had been to proclaim that the defendants were above cheque-book journalism and to scott at an anonymous German broadcaster for having paid money for an interview. Section 30(2): Fair dealing for reporting current events

real time in prison. Although both were tenable constructions, Mr

tion 41 of the 1991 Act focused the

calculation exercise on time ac-

tually served and did not seek to many served and did not seek in take into account time which, although included in the length of sentence pronounced, would not be served unless the offender re-

offended during its corrency.

The point of section, 33 was to

produce what was in effect a

The length of that suspended sentence reduced with each day the

offender remained at large without re-offending and it expired when the full term of the sentence pronounced by the court expired.

To reduce that salutary period

artificially by the time spent in custody which was not used up in extinguishing the custodial half of

the sentence was to fritter away the

suspended sentence for a prisone sentenced to less than 12 months

Soorjoo's was correct because so

His Lordship was not persuaded that Ms Byrne considered the fact of a German interview newsworthy at all, or that that played any part in her decision to use the film clip. And he had no doubt that the use made of it was not, in all the circumstances, fair. Section 97(2): Additional

His Lordship had no doubt that Ms Byrne sincerely believed that what she was doing was permis-sible and for the public good: also that her programme was not intended to compete with or to devalue the Pro Steben Interview Therefore an award of additional damages was not appropriate. Solicitors: Frere Cholmeley Bischoff; Henry Hepworth.

Considering unfitness of company director

Secretary of State for Trade and Industry v Ivens and

In considering whether to make a disqualification order against the director of an insolvent company, pursuant to section 6 of the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986, and there was evidence relating to companies, the only connection required was that the director was a director of both the insolvent company and collat-eral companies, and that his conduct in relation to each indicated unfitness to be concerned

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Leggat, Lord Justice Morritt and Lord Justice Brooke) so held on July 25 dismissing the appeal of Trevor Paul Ivens and Jane Hilary Ivens, directors of Country Farm Inns Ltd, against the judgment of Judge Weeks, QC, sitting in the Chancery Division on preliminary issues, that their conduct as directors of companies save Country Farm Inns if proved was conduct as a director of any other company or companies" within section 6(1)(b) of the 1986 Act.

LORD JUSTICE MORRITT

connection was required but its implication would be contrary to the purpose of the Act. Although the lead company had

to have become insolvent (section 6(1)(a)), there was no requirement the collateral company should

Thus the fact that a collateral company was insolvent could not be a necessary, or indeed a sufficient connection.

Judge Weeks reached the correct conclusion for the right reasons and his Lordship disagreed with In re Godwin Warren Control Sys-

Hearing appeal against sentence

Regina v Swindon Crown Court, Ex parte Murray

When hearing an appeal against sentence, a crown court should not carry out a review of the justices' decision, but ask itself what, on all the evidence, was the right

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Henry and Mr. Justice Gage) so held on July 2 when allowing an application by Jason Murray for judicial review of the decision of Swindon Crown Court (Mr Recorder Lionel Read, OC and justices) to dismiss his appeal against a sentence of four months imprisonment imposed by Swindon Justices for driving while disqualified, contrary to section 103(I)(b) of the Road Traffic Act

LORD JUSTICE HENRY said that when a defendant appealed against a sentence imposed by a magistrates' court the crown court should carry out a complete re-hearing of the issues.

Upon dismissing the defendant's appeal in this case the recorder had said: "There was nothing wrong in principle with imposing custody and no reason to disagree with the length of sentence imposed by the justices." That statement made it clear that the court had erred, by simply reviewing the justices' decision and not forming its own independent view of the matter.

A crown court should not ask itself whether the justices' sentence was within their discretion to pass but whether on all the matters it had heard, what was the right

Correction In Stone v Chataway (The Times August 11) the instructing solicitors for Mr Clarke were Laytons.

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HOMES 43

Swing towards Spain

Wildman on how the Ryder Cup has

brought buyers to Valderrama

olf's ultimate competition - the Ryder Cup - is taking place this weekend at Valderrama Golf Club, set within the 4,000-acre Sotogrande leisure estate in southern Spain. With 30,000 ticket holders expected each day and 600 million television viewers tuning in, the area is preparing itself for worldwide

Sterling's strength against a continuing weak peseta combined with the booming British economy is, for the first time in six years, attracting the British buyer back to the Costa

Vastly improved road links now mean that Sotogrande is a 75-minute drive from Malaga airport and only 15 minutes rom Gibraltar and this, combined with the massive publicity the Ryder Cup is generating, has already resulted in an upturn in sales.

James Stewart, directorgeneral of Valderrama, which has its own sales division linked to Sotheby's International Realty in London, says: "We will never obtain publicity like this again. We have sold 17 plots of land at Los Altos de Valderrama, our private estate edging the fourth and fifth greens and fairways.

Must of these have been to members who aiready own property within Sotogrande but who now want to upgrade. Prices range from about £90,000 for an acre plot to more than £250,000 for more than two acres in prime position. For a buyer keen to acquire a completed home, we have a spacious four-bedroom villa in one acre, with pool and spectacular views, for an asking price of £600,000."

Valderrama Estates is also selling the remaining five town houses of 19 at Los Patios de Valderrama costing from £230,000 to £400,000 for the three to six-bedroom homes situated in a courtyard edging the seventh fairway and part of the nine-hole short course.

Mr Stewart adds: "There

indiaman's Assig



Los Patios de Valderrama villas are in a courtyard edging the seventh fairway and part of the nine-hole short course

There is

it is

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coast'

are already 37 golf courses along the Costa del Sol, but what we have lacked on this coast are major leisure investors to bring in facilities to complement these such as Disneyworld. There are vast amounts of space here and we surely have, in this wave of publicity, the opportunity to create a sophisticated leisure

To the east of Sotogrande, 15 minutes' drive from Marbella and set in the Benahavis foothills, is La Zageleta, a magnificent 2,200-acre estate complete with private golf course, riding club, tennis. trout and carp lakes, shooting range and deer. A sophisticated, secure, private estate, there are plans to build a maximum of 400 homes. To date, 45 houses have been completed and 95 plots sold. Prices for a plot start at £350,000 for two acres and from £1 million for a four-bedroom house complete

THE COST OF MOVING TO A HEALTHIER ENVIRONMENT

ready for occupation. Naomi Greatbanks of Knight Frank, the UK agent, says: "The facilities, which include a bar and restaurant, are solely for the use of residents and their guests, guaranteeing a relaxed

Nicholas Wells-Hunt, a spokesman for the estate. says: "There is no doubt that the Ryder Cup is affecting the whole coast. This estate is for the wealthy, keen on total seclusion who are prepared to pay £10,000 a year to keep the golf course, sta-bling and the clubhouse facili-

and private atmos-

ties for owners' use only. "Most purchasers prefer to choose their own location. drawing up their own plans and build under our supervision. But there is always with pool and stunning views. Three of the latter are now

in quickly, so we have a small selection of completed properties available."

The Sotogrande estate is taking the opportunity given by the Ryder Cup to change its previous image as an elegant

summer hideaway into a complete tourist centre. Candida Taylor, comno doubt mercial director, says: "Sotogrande is diversifying. We used to market only real estate, with facilities including a private the whole marina, two golf clubs and two beach clubs. Now we are opening a pay-and-play 18-hole golf course called Soto-

grande Alto. Its focal point will be a 150-bedroom hotel with health spa and leisure centre. which is due for completion within 18 months. For the first time, we plan to let our properties through tour operators and will include golf and beach club facilities.

Sotogrande SA is selling new marina properties at between £83,000 and £330,000. classically styled three and four-bedroom detached houses set in a minimum quarter-ecre plot adjacent to, or with views over, the new golf course. Prices are from £175,000 and include a share the privately owned Sotogrande Golf Club.

That the Ryder Cup will bring enormous publicity to this southernmost region of Spain is not in doubt. It is to be hoped that local planning authorities will take advantage of any increased investment to agree to practical but sensitively designed com-mercial and residential developments.

● Valderrama Estates 00 3456 791216, fax 00 3456 791507; Knight Frank 0171-629 8171, fax 0171-753 0638; Sotogrande SA; 0171-351

Simon Brooke on the demand for show homes

he "show flat" or "show house" is an increasingly impor-tant marketing tool for property develop-ers and estate agents. Louise Counsell, of Try Homes says: Some people are saying that though the demand for properties is great, there is no need for show flats, but they have been proved wrong Show homes can

maximise values and nelp to close a sale, as well as help buyers to visualise com-pleted properties.* Try Homes has two devel-

opments on offer, each with show flat. The Pipe Building overlooking the Thames in Fulham is a development of one to four-bedroom loft apartments, many with double height ceilings. The aggressively modern sty meant that the show flat needed furnishings and accessories to suit. Gail Taylor, of the interior designers TMH, went for bright orange easy chairs and abstract prints in the living room. In the mezzanine dining area she chose a natural wood dining suite in severe geometric style.

Peninsula Barracks, development of flats and townhouses in a 17th-century military encampment in the centre of Winchester, Hampshire, required a more classic look. Comfortable chairs and tables, patterned wallpaper and fabrics were placed alongside antiques. "It has to be more than the buyers would do for themselves, but not too grand," Mis Taylor says. You don't want to put

people off." Like most developers, Try Homes researches its potential clientele. then briefs the interior designer on the style and tone of the show house. The designer will buy furniture, fabrics, pictures and everything from cutlery and crockery to linen and lamp shades. Ms Taylor adds: "You have to 'accessorise' everything. We even buy bottles of olive oil for the kitchen." Antiques are usually

rented from dealers. The show house is the first item in a development to be

Showing off the finished article

built or refurbished. This can put pressure on the designers. Ms Taylor says: The developer might insist that the flat is launched the next day, in which case you find yourself working until midnight amid wet paint and men in hard hats. You often see beautiful settees being carried in across muddy building sites." Fountain House in Park

Lane, Mayfair, which comprises four substantial penthouses on offer for up to £4 million, was launched 18 months ago. One was developed into a show flat, and, often happens, this was the first to sell. The other three remained unsold until a second was chosen to become a show flat. This was snapped up in days, and now the developers are considering furnishing and decorating the remaining two.

For the layman, working out how to make full use of a large space can be challenging. Jane Rodney, who was responsible for the interior design of Fountain House, says: "People wonder where to put a dining table or settee. Even if what you've done is not to their taste. they can at least get an idea. Sometimes they will rip out

done, but commission you to give the property a new look." Ms Rodney has be-

expert. She works on the more expensive properties with a budget of up to £300,000, and the prestige of her projects allows her to borrow expensive antiques and furnish-ings. "You're trying to do something that

appeals to every-body," she says. "It's got to be gorgeous, and if it's for a £4.5 million property it has to be grand, I usually go for the Mid-European look rather than the classic British style: strong colours and striking materials. I used fabric that was £900 a square metre on cushions in one property; but they really made the room.

"Since the 1980s, the standard has shot up. We use the best marble in the bathrooms, and the house is often wired for music in every room, Wardrobes have to be lined with sycamore and kitchens must be luxurious and have every imaginable appliance."

t the top end of the market, foreign cli-euts often buy the entire contents of the show flat, from settees to cutlery, because they do not want the inconvenience of furnishing and equipping a London base themselves.

The usual practice with show homes is to exchange contracts but put completion off for some months while the other homes are being sold. As yet no developer appears to have a requirement for a show family.



Jane Rodney chose a Mid-European look for Fountain House

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new North-South divide

WHERE you live in Britain may affect how long you live, a report out last month indicates. So how much does it cost to live in areas where you can expect to live longer? Evidence of a widening North-South divide in life expectancy and in property prices emerges in two sets of figures published this summer.

Glasgow residents are 60 per cent more likely to die prematurely than people liv-ing in rural Dorset, and 31 per cent more likely than those living in Bristol, according to a study published by the Rowntree Foundation. Residents of Oldham, Salford and Greenock are almost 33 per cent more likely to die before they are 65 than the national average, it adds.

A survey of house prices in Britain, published just before the Rowntree report, shows that homes in places with the highest life expectancies are the most expensive. Eight times as many boys aged one to four died in Manchester between 1090 and 1992 as died in rural Gloucestershire, the Rowntree survey showed. The average price of a semi-detached house in Manchester is E56,100. compared with £73.363 in Gloucestershire, reveals the Halifax report on national house prices for the

Eve-Ann Prentice reports on links between housing and mortality

second quarter of this year.

Dr Daniel Dorling of the
University of Bristol, who compiled the report. Death in Britain: How Local Mortality Rates have Changed: 1950s to 1990s, examined statistics for death rates of infants, adoles-

throughout England, Scotland and Wales. A baby girl born in Leeds is more than twice as likely to die in the first year of life as one growing up in a town in Dorset. The average price of a semi-detached in Leeds is £57,450; a similar house in Dorset

Death rates for baby boys in Halifax and Preston are almost double the national average, the Rowntree Foundation survey shows. The average semi-detached in Halifax costs £53,150 and in Preston it is £59,900 - both well below the national aver-

age of £68,166. shows isolated pockets of high among pre-school girls in Bir-

mortality rates in the South. the majority of higher-than-normal death rates are to be found in the North. No link should be made between house prices and death rates, but the figures show that people wanting to move from cents and adults by sex a high to low-mortality rate area may not be

places

able to afford to do 'Patterns with the lowest pre-mature and child of varying death rates are life Totnes in Devon; Wimborne. Dorset; chances and Reigate and Epsom in Surrey. need to be where, according to the Black Horse looked at' prices for a three-

bed semi range from £70.000 to £145,000. Early childhood mortality rates for boys in Dewsbury, west Yorkshire, Bethnal Green, in the East End of London. Manchester and St Helens on Merseyside have doubled since 1981. Dr Dorling found. And there has Though the Rowntree report been an increase in deaths

Isle of Wight. Mortality rates for boys and girls aged five to fourteen increased during the 1980s in Salford, rural Carmarthenshire. St Helens, Nottingham and Bethnal Green.

Dr Dorling says: "This study does not seek to speculate on the reasons why divisions between different parts of the country have become so pronounced. However, it does seem that the trend has occurred too quickly to be explained simply by a changing distribution of wealth, changing causes of death, or as a reflection of past health inequalities. These patterns of varying life chances need to be

The Halifax survey meanwhile shows that Greater London still tops the national house price league; average semis cost £133,722. Of 62 counties listed, the top ten are all in the South. West Wales -average price £42,482 - comes

As part of the World Health Organisation's Targets for Health, Britain has made a commitment to reduce health inequalities by the year 2000. The report published by the Rowntree Foundation concludes that the mortality differences will make the target extremely difficult to achieve.

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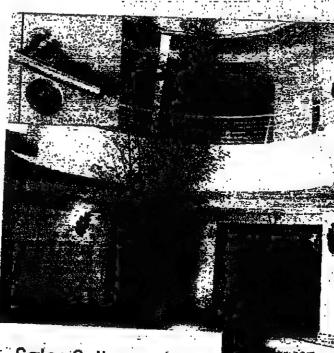
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Speedway salutes elder statesman

Tony Hoare meets a brave rider who defied the odds to complete 25 years on the track

leven years ago. Alan Grahame did not dare to imagine that he could extend his speedway career long enough to celebrate 25 years in the saddle. In 1986, Grahame was 32 and an established England international rider when he was told that he had Hodgkin's disease, a form of cancer that attacks the lymph glands.

Despite the severity of his condition. Grahame was determined to fight his way back to fitness. He stopped riding for only six weeks, when the treatment he was receiving meant that his blood had taken too much of a pounding. Grahame, a plucky racer, called on that resource to beat the disease and become one of the sport's elder statesmen.

Tonight, at Craven Park Stadium, where Grahame is No I for Hull Vikings, he will celebrate his quarter-century as a speedway rider with a testimonial meeting. Grahame has ridden for seven British League clubs since he started out with Birmingham, his home town club, and admits that the celebrations tonight will be an emotional occasion.

Known as "Big Al". he has enjoyed a highly successful career. He rode as a reserve in the 1984 world championship final and finished second to his younger brother, Andy, in the 1982 British championship. The dark days of 1986 will always mark his career, however. "I thought it would possibly finish me, never mind my career," he said, "but modern medicine is amazing and I have a lot of fighting spirit as well. I came through it."

The cancer was at an advanced stage and Grahame was immediately taken into hospital for the first bout of treatment. To carry on racing through the gruelling sessions of chemotherapy and was a remarkable



Grahame, whose career appeared to be over 11 years ago, celebrates his silver jubilee in the sport tonight

nently. It was immediately handed to

live," he said. "I was on cloud nine. It was

a relief to be back. I'd had a couple of lean

years and it was so nice to be feeling good

The trophy now sits in the lounge of Grahame's home in Sutton Coldfield,

where his daughter keeps it polished. As

"I will never forget that for as long as I

Grahame to keep.

"I had to dig down very deep and find my will to live," Grahame said, "I had to fight it all the way and not give in. I tried to ride through it. Some people said I was stupid and should have had a break from it, but it was my living and I was going to try to ride whatever.

He returned to Cradley in 1987, his testimonial season, but it all became too much for him and he had to be rested from the team. Grahame rode in his benefit meeting and was such a success he was immediately reinstated.

After slowly fighting his way back to form and beating the disease, Grahame

completed his comeback by playing a he prepares to celebrate his silver jubilee, it serves as a reminder of the lows that he starring role in Cradley's 1998 Speedway Star Cup victory. Cradley, having won went through. the competition for the third year in Even now, Grahame, who also runs a succession, were given the trophy perma-

motorcycle shop near his home, has been fighting pain to take his place in his testimonial. A troublesome shoulder injury was recently operated on, but he insists that he will be riding.

"For the past ten years people have always been asking when I am going to retire," he said. "I always say: In a couple of years, just a couple of years.' Here I am now getting ready for 25 years. It has

Sumptuous sporting spectacle enriched by the Gazza Factor

SIMON BARNES

Midweek View

olf — stop me if I've said this before — does not stir my blood. is around, I am inclined to take notice. Ditto Tiger Woods. So much so that I might even switch on the television to watch the Ryder Cup this week, thereby swelling the ranks of the floating voters of sport, caught, not by history and tradition and the prospect of a good old sporting scrap, but by personality. Per-sonality is what television does best. It

flattens and cheapens the action: but it invariably captures, to the point of caricature,

personality.

Horse racing, like golf, is one of those sports you either like a ot or you don't like at all. But if you have not heard of Fallon and Godolphin and Entrepreneur, you have cer-tainly heard of Frankie. A year ago this weekend, Frankie Dettori rode all seven winners on the year's richest day of

The feat was remarkable, but had it been performed by Kieren Fallon, we would not

have made the same fuss. Here, though, it is necessary to explain who Fallon is. He is the jockey who is more or less certain to be the champion this year. There are a lot of very good racing stories about him, but racing stories they Dettori's magnificent seven became a

national sporting legend, as opposed to a mere racing legend, because of ... well, let us call it the Gazza Factor. His ability and his victory was added to his public nature. Dettori's exuberance in victory is wonderfully at odds with the buttoned-up traditions of British racing. His flying dismounts make wonderful pictures. And racing, a sport that is never quite as popular as it wants to be, falls on its knees and gives thanks. The Gazza Factor is the ability to break

down the barriers of sport. The Gazza Factor touches people who are not interested in that particular sport, and it reaches out farther, to people who are not interested in sport at ail. The last personality to manage that in horse racing was Desert Orchid.

Gazza managed it for football eight summers ago. The progress of England into the knockout stages of a significant international tournament always brings in the floating voters.

caught the imagination of the floating voters of sport by his wonderfully inventive football, and his famous bout of tears. Thus football burst the banks of its usual stream of popularity. Football became fashionable again: and perhaps a good deal of its present extraordinary popularity goes back to the tears of Turin. The Gazza Factor need not happen in mainstream sport. It happened in the

charmingly daft sport of ice dance who will forget T and D? They became national icons. The definition of an intellectual is a person who can listen to Bolero without seeing a mauveclad couple slithering about the ice.

Frank Bruno became a national love object, despite the fact that he was involved in the unlovely business of boxing. His act grew pretty stale, but the genuine charm behind it did not. I don't know how many of Bruno's floating voters actually watched his fights - that would have rather spoilt things — but Frank himself rode the Gazza Factor

for all that it was worth. Patriotism is often an aspect of the Gazza Factor - Ian Botham certainly conformed to that one in his time - but it is not essential. Perhaps more than any other sporting icon, Olga Korbut possessed the Gazza Factor in overabundance. Before the Olympics of 1972, gymnastics was a sport that was considered worthy rather than sexy. But Olga transformed it from top to bottom, and her legacy remains. Gymnastics attracted the biggest audience of the entire Games in Atlanta, She - rather like Frankie possessed an incandescent delight in what she did. She was, in a word, adored.

Genius alone does not make for the Gazza Factor, nor achievement at the very highest level. Pete Sampras, Steve Redgrave, both wonderful athletes, do not possess it. The Gazza Factor is something strange and capricious and delightful. It cannot be contrived though Bruno did his best - and it cannot be controlled. Any sport that has a Gazza must revel in it, and hope that the effect lasts. As for spectators . . . well, we can just lie back and enjoy it. At the weekend, football and the rest take second place to golf and racing, and the reason is the Gazza Factor.

RUGBY LEAGUE: SHEFFIELD CAPTAIN ONE OF FIVE PLAYERS ADDED TO SQUAD FOR AUSTRALIA SERIES

Britain plump for consistency of Broadbent

By Christopher Irvine

THERE are few more loyal, consistent or respected players than Paul Broadbent. The Sheffield Eagles captain, a late arrival on the international scene, is certain to add to his five Great Britain appearances in the British Gas series against Australia in November.

Broadbent, 29, is one of five additions to the Britain "train-on" squad, which will

be completed after the Stones Premiership final between Wigan and St Helens, at Old Trafford on Sunday. He is joined by his club colleagues, Nick Pinkney and Keith Senior, and by Dean Sampson and Jason Flowers, both of Castleford.

Belated recognition of Broadbent as one of the few consistently outstanding prop forwards came when he was selected 11 months ago for the South Pacific and New Zealand tour. This year his form was recognised with selection in the 1997 Stones Dream Team. Broadbent is more assured of a place in

the team at Wembley, on November I, than Senior, who made two appearances on tour last year, and Pinkney, who represented England in the 1995 World

Sampson is another experienced contender for the front row, while the selection of Flowers, whose last representative call was in 1994 for the Great Britain Academy team, recognises his progress at full back for Castleford.

UAD: Backs: P Ascheson (Olcham), S Bleivelt lord), G Broadboart (Selord), F Currenins (Leack), Impion (Olcham), S Stowards (London), J Flower stisford), I Herris (Leack), N McAvoy (Sallord), S Nayk lord, M Ottah (London), N Philosy (Shelfield), J Rope trington), J Scales (Bractford), K Senior (Shelfield), 3 los (Bractford), R Senior (Shelfield), 3 los (Bractford), P Sterling (Leacks) History, an Unsure State Brackford), K Senior (Snuce (Stational, P Starting Speeds For schery (Sational), P Starting Speeds For schery (Sational), P Broadbert (Sheffeld), add), M Forshaw (Snational), C (Billiophia Dermott (Brackford), S McNamara (Brackford), S McNamara (Brackford), S McNamara (Brackford), S McNamara (Brackford), P Soughtope (Warrington)

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Rusedski too strong for Woodbridge

TENNIS

GREG RUSEDSKI advanced into the quarter-finals of the Compaq Grand Slam Cup here yesterday after a fitful display against Todd Woodbridge, of Australia. The British No I recovered from a poor start to prevail 4-6, 6-1, 7-5 and secure a match against Yevgeni Kalelnikov.

It was a far from impressive display from Rusedski, whose thunderous service liept him in the match against a jaded opponent. Woodbridge, who only arrived 24 hours before the match after Australia's Davis Cup defeat against United States, quickly established a 4-0 lead as Rusedski's timing deserted him on the fast indoor carpet. However, the Australian doubles specialist could not sustain his effort in the face of Rusedski's service-led assault.

Rusedski served 20 aces in the match and frequently hauled himself back from the brink with a succes-

RESULTS

sion of winners. Never was his principal weapon better employed than in the last game of the match. when Rusedski, facing two break points, never had to deal with a return in completing his victory. It says much about the match's overall standard that Woodbridge, who served 14 double faults, was able to detain Rusedski for so long.

Rusedski was not at his best, but still proved too strong for Woodbridge, whom he conceded was "fatigued" after his Davis Cup exploits. "I got better, more consistent wth my serve, after the first set." Rusedski said. "I thought Kafelnikov played exceptionally well [in beating Sergi Brugueral and playing him is

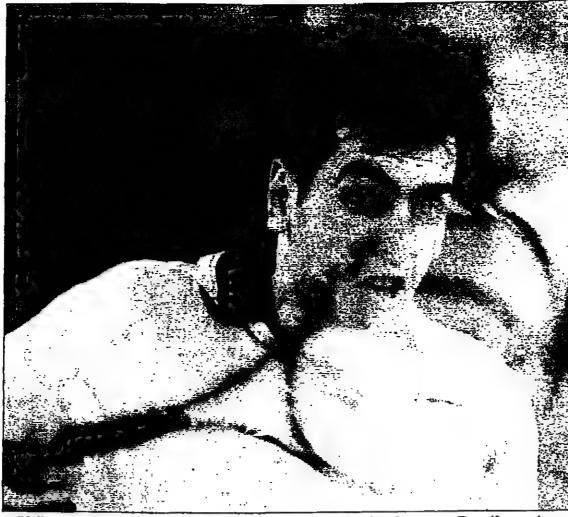
going to be a great test for me." For all the money being thrown at the 16 competitors, there was undoubtedly something missing when the opening shots were traded in the Compaq Grand Slam Cup here yesterday. The opening-day matches lacked glamour, the atmosphere was consequently subdued and the four first-round losers will have perished with \$100,000 (about £60,000) apiece by way of consolation. The plain truth about this heavily contrived event is that it only really starts when Boris Becker takes to the court.

Part of the problem has been the passage of lesser-ranked players to the latter stages of the grand slam tournaments this year, the criteria by which selection to the 16-player party is made. Filip Dewulf, of Belgium, a first-round loser at Wimbledon and in the US Open, and a second-round casualty in Australia, comfortably made the cut on his surprise journey to the semi-finals in the French Open. While Cedric Pioline's grand-slam record brooks no argument, the Frenchman's match against Dewulf was hardly likely to raise the pulse. So it proved: the pair made their entrance to the strains of a grand fanfare and a near-deserted

If that seemed a touch ridiculous, the match's conclusion was one of high farce. Dewulf, who started the contest with both ankles heavily strapped, tripped over a ball that he attempted to kick in frustration at missing a routine volley during the first set. He required medical attention before taking the set into a tiebreak, which he lost 7-4. Then, at 2-2 in the second set, and with his movement clearly restricted. Dewulf sheepily downed his racket and retired. In labouring on, Dewulf was perhaps hoping that Pioline's own physical problems would catch up with him. On Friday he had with-drawn from France's Davis Cup-tie against Belgium with an injured

Marcelio Rios sloppily dropped the opening set before asserting himself against Mark Woodforde to win 6-7, 6-3, 6-1. His reward is a match against Pioline for a semi-final place.

Pete Sampras opens his campaign today and will collect \$500,000 in bonuses as soon as he strikes the first ball against Felix Mantilla. Winners of grand-slam events collect a bonus \$250,000 per event just for



Pioline keeps his eye on the ball as he powers his way to a lucrative victory over Dewulf yesterday

SAILING: ALL-FEMALE CREW LEFT LANGUISHING IN WAKE OF LEADERS

Whitbread fleet picks up speed

BY EDWARD GORMAN

THE first potentially significant split in the ten-strong Whitbread roundthe world race fleet occurred yesterday when the yachts, having been bunched in light airs on their way past Ushant, accelerated unevenly southwards in moderate conditions

into the Bay of Biscay.
The main beneficiaries were the boats to the east of the pack as the breeze filled in from the land. The first to pick up speed were Paul Cayard's EF Language, Grant Dal-ton's Merit Cup, Knut Frostad's Innovation Kvaerner, and Silk Cut, the British entry skippered by Law-

The big losers were the all-female new in EF Education which had briefly led the fleet in the calms and the fog on Monday, when the skipper, Christine Guillou, of France, and the navigator, Lynnath slightly more westerly course than the rest of the fleet.

The decision proved costly. The women found themselves in a hole and spent several frustrating hours simply stemming the current before eventually getting away. During one six-hour period yesterday, Merit Cup averaged 11.6 knots while EF Education managed 6.5 knots.

At the front of the fleet the positions remained tight last night with just four miles separating the leader, EF Language, from Silk Cut in fourth. There was then a 15-mile gap to Chessie Racing in fifth place with Chris Dickson's Toshiba three miles further back in sixth. The last group was led by America's Challenge, 52 miles adrift of the leading boat. EF Education was 82 miles behind the leader in last place.

All the boats have been having trouble with seaweed being lodged board to free it.

On America's Challenge, Ross Field, of New Zealand, who won the Whitbread 60 class last time in Yamaha, provided a revealing insight into the uphill struggle he faces, having joined the boat just days before the start.

"This is a long learning curve," he said yesterday. "We have been having electrical problems and have had someone up the mast fixing instrumentation. We have been trying to line up with other boats to see the angles we should be sailing at. and looking at sail combinations and crossovers.

"The crew is settling in, and on some points of sailing, the boat is an absolute bullet. I am very aware that other people have been sailing for nine months to a year, whereas I have had less than four hours at the helm, so it will take a few days to

RUGBY UNION

McGeechan and Telfer link up for Scotland

By Kevin Ferrie

IAN McGEECHAN and Jim Telfer are being reunited as Scotland seek maximum benefit from having provided the coaching team that guided the British Isles to victory in South

Speculation over Mc-Geechan's future has been rife since he rejected the chance to coach England, while making clear his eagerness to remain involved at the top level. Telfer also has declared his preference for more of a hands-on role as Scotland's national director of rugby.

Richie Dixon and David Johnston remain the national coaches. McGeechan, under an agreement with his club. Northampton, will work with the Scotland side on a parttime basis, in the build-up to an immediate aftermath of international matches.

Telfer, meanwhile, effectively becomes the coach of Scotland's 40 other full and part-time professional coach-es, as well as being directly involved with the national

Every ambitious coach should want to coach Scot-land," Telfer said. "What we want to do, therefore, is to provide a pathway to the top for coaches and a structure that allows us to jointly develop a certain distinctive Scottish brand of rugby. To help us achieve that, I am taking on more responsibility for coach development at all international levels."

Duncan Paterson, the executive board chairman of the Scottish Rugby Union (SRU), said that he was delighted at McGeechan's decision to con-tinue working with Scotland. "Ian chose his own folk over England. We are very fortunate to have the two men who led the Lions in South Africa, together with our national

coaches. Telfer said yesterday he had taken a leading role in per-suading McGeechan that his future lay north of the border. rather than with England.

· IN BRIEF · -McCulloch * cruises home over **Foulds**

Rebecce put bes

NEAL FOULDS, the former snooker world No 3 now languishing at thirtieth in the rankings, was beaten 5-0 by Ian McCulloch, of Preston, in his opening match of the season in the third qualifying round of the German Open at Hereford yesterday (Phil Yates writes)

McCulloch, who will meet Anthony Hamilton for a place in the final stages of the tournament at Bingen in December, extended his unbeaten sequence this summer to five matches, a record equalled by Quinten Hann, 20, from Australia, who reached the last 32 by beating Mark King, runner-up in the Regal Welsh Open eight months ago. 5-2.

□ Bowls: Richard Corsie, the Commonwealth Games champion, has bad to drop out of the Scotland team for the European outdoor team championship in Guernsey today. His place is taken by George Adrain, the world triples champion.

☐ Basketball: Chris Finch, the Sheffield Sharks captain, was denied a work permit to coach the team for the second time in two months yesterday. The ruling by the Employment Department was upheld on the grounds that Finch did not possess the requisite coaching qualifications.

Cricket: Northamptonshire have been cleared of making an illegal approach to Gavin Hamilton, the Yorkshire seamer. The case was brought before the England and Wales Cricket Board's disciplinary panel, which dis-missed the complaint.

□ Real tennis: Penny Lumley, the world champion from Britain, suffered her first defeat by a woman in four years when she lost 6-4, 6-4 in the final of the French Open at Fontainebleau to her compatriot, Sue Haswell, a former lawn tennis junior inter-

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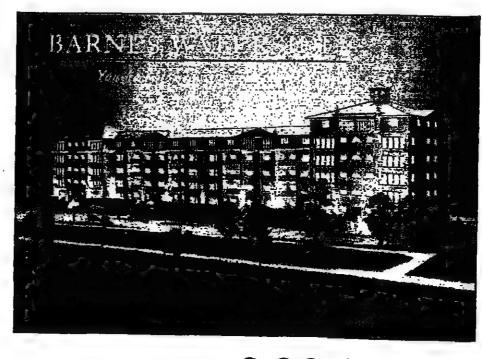
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RACING: ENCOURAGEMENT OFFERED FOR ASCOT OUTSIDERS

Rebecca Sharp ready to put best foot forward

By CHRIS McGrath

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home ore

WITH half the field taking their first, gingerly steps without crutches, the Queen Elizabeth II Stakes at Ascot could well reduce punters, in finan-cial terms, to the condition of walking wounded themselves. It would duly seem prudent to approach with imagination a market dominated by Entrepreneur, Revoque and Sahhare, three colts whose medical records make War And Peace resemble a business card.

It was easy enough to be emboldened, listening to the connections of two outsiders yesterday. While Entrepreneur is only 2-1 with the Tote, 25-l is still available about Rebecca Sharp, and Coral offer 33-1 against Faithful Son. Yet Rebecca Sharp is a

group one winner over the Old Mile, having defied the same odds in the Coronation Stakes at the royal meeting. She has since sandwiched

run with two less

edifying efforts, reminiscent of her 1,000 Guineas failure. Last time, in the Prix du Moulin, she was produced cruising but failed to muster the expected turn of foot against Spinning World, fading into seventh.

Given that the Coronation was slowly run, there must be a suspicion that she does not last a truly-run mile. Yet,

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: ROYAL GROUND (2.00 Goodwood) Next best: Sandstone (3.30 Goodwood)

Bijou D'Inde apart, there is a conspicuous lack of early pace on Saturday, and Rebecca Sharp - who has such a serene, gliding action - will relish the fast ground,

Geoff Wragg, her trainer, said: "Perhaps they went too fast at Longchamp. She came there to challenge but then rather petered out, so maybe thought she had run well at Deauville the time before, when she looked like trotting up until Daneskaya suddenly appeared. She is a funny old dear, but has definitely got the ability and is working well." Faithful Son has also disap-

pointed after looking an exciting prospect. But both his its came over undulations, at Epsom and Goodwood, and he has since preserved his unbeaten record on galloping courses, winning at Doncaster. His would, doubtless, prove a poignant success for his trainer, Michael Stoute, who has nursed Entrepreneur back so tenderly after he injured a hamstring in the Derby.

Joe Mercer, Maktoum Al-Maktoum's racing manager, said: "Doncaster was an easy warm-up for him, and he will stay well. Michael says that he's certainly eligible to take part. He followed Entrepreneur up the gallops recently, breezing happily on his tail."

light of what has quickly become a showpiece fixture and, as such, another incentive to Newmarket's efforts to invigorate its status as Headquarters. Yesterday new sponsors were announced for the Dewhurst Stakes on Champi-

ons Day, October 18.

Along with the Middle Park
Stakes, the Dewhurst has been backed by the Thoroughbred Corporation, representing the equine interests of the Saudi prince, Ahmed bin Salman. Prize-money on the card has now been pumped up to £735,000, the Dubai Champion Stakes dominating at £400,000-guaranteed.

Peter Player, the course chairman, said: This meeting

was losing out somewhat to the Breeders' Cup and Arc. so we decided to reinvent it. We hope, in the longer term, to provide a viable alternative for those who don't want to risk sending a horse all the way to the United States at the end of a long season."

brounts to Iglast race). Going on which bose has won (F — firm, good to Birn, hard. 8 — good. S — 90H, good to 50H, beavy). Owner in brackets. Trakes. Age and weight. Filder plus soy allowance.



Rebecca Sharp has the advantage of having won the Coronation Stakes over the Old Mile course at Ascot

COOPWOOD

4.00 Scissor Ridos

2.00 Royal Ground 2.30 High Tension

4.36 MBULWA (nap) 5.05 Snow Partridge 5.35 Ring The Chief

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.30 MUTAWWAJ (nap).

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(2-Y-0: £3,386: 1m 1f) (13 runners) (2) 1280563 ARM AND A LEG 15 (BF,F) (Mrs R Aggio) C Dwyw 8-11 (10) 040 ERBKA'S YOUNG MAN 39 (6 Butterfeld) M Haynes 8-11 ...

SETTIME: 9-4 Royal Bround, 7-2 Constant Atlantion, 4-1 Francesca's Folia, 11-2 Arm And A Lag, 7-1 Person Venture, 12-1 Statutualia, 14-1 Erika's Young Man, Five Patrice, 16-1 cities.

Persian Venture 151 12th to Holy Wine in 714f Lingfield nursery (good); previously neck 2nd of 10 to Marcia Machine in 71 51 12th to Holy Wine in 714f Lingfield nursery (good); previously neck 2nd of 10 to Marcia Machine in 71 51 12th to Marcia Ma CONSTANT ATTENTION can reverse Lukester running with Francesca's Folly

2.30 ST IVEL GOLD CUP MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-0: £3,720: 1m) (8 runners)

3 ACHILLES 72 (Achilles Freight Forestries Lid) R Almberti 9-0 ... J Wesser 88
0 ALLGRIT 15 (M a Maisoure) E Durlop 9-0 ... M Richards 77
HIGH TENSON (N R H Prince Path Samen) P Cole 9-0 ... T Gainn
SL EAR SPEAR 14 (R Toole) O Electron 9-0 ... B Drowne 96
S23 MUTAWWAJ 12 (Godolphin) S bin Sursor 9-0 ... J Raid 1750
0 RSEHT CROSS JORRY 32 (R Sangaler) P Chaptle-Hyum 9-0 ... T Sprake 50
0 ST EMODOG 47 (Lord Swepthing) J Durlop 9-0 ... T Sprake 55
EANTARENE (R Khan) P Honding 8-9 ... Paul Eddory CHTING: 4-7 Mutawee, 5-1 High Tension, 6-1 Law Spear, 10-1 Achilles, 16-1 Aligni, St Enotice, 33-1 Right 1988; VOYAGERS QUEST 9-0 J Red (11-8 tw) P Chappie-Hyert 11 mm

Achilles 241 3rd to Macratabeth in 6i Folestone matides (good to farm). High Tension Sadier's Wells cuit out of a well-brad American mare Lear Spear 6i41 3rd to Tamerask in 7f Kempton maiden (good). Mutawwed 141 3rd to City Honours in 1m Devertey maiden (good to firm). Right Cross Jonny 26i last of 8 to Albertch in 1m Beverley maiden (good to firm). MUTAWWAL has good opportunity to open account

resonant number. Draw in orientes. Stit-flying lorm (F-leil, P-public) up. Up. consisting notes 8 — brought down. S — stopped up. 8 — refused. D — disqualible) Horse's name. Days since last outlog: J of pumps, F b flat. 18 — blinders. V — visor H — hood. E — Fysisheld. C — colume vinner. D — distance winner. CD —

(2-Y-0: £4,802: 71) (8 nunners)

3.00 SCOTTISH EQUITABLE AUCTION STAKES

103 (12) 0-0432 6000 TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,9,5) (Mrs D Robinson) 8 Half 9-10-0 _ 8 West (4) 88

Instrictivery 14f 7th to Teapor Row in 6f Neumarical maiden (good), Carteral Committee beat Long Bond 3f in 79f Bevering maiden auction (good in firm) Priceless 13f 4th to Aboostan in the Standard of Rodo in 7f Goodwood nursery (good). Bestron 1f 2nd to Ridgel in 7f Goodwood nursery (good). Bestron 1f 2nd to Ridgel in 7f Rodowski in 7f Warwick maiden auction (good to soft). Madarna Jones 216f 3nd to Classy Cleo in 6f Haydock Stating (good to soft).

PRICELESS has less to do here. Titan bad of the others

 $3.30\,$ r $_{
m 0}$ a foundation stakes (Listed race: £17,300: 1m 2f) (5 runners)

BETTING: 7-4 Sendstone. 5-2 Denish Rhapsody, 7-2 Running Step, 11-2 Proper Blue, 10-1 Linety Heart.

FORM: FOCUS

Darish Rhapeody bast King Of Tunes 11/41 in 1m 11 Goodwood handleap (good) Proper Blue 7/41 4th to Clan Ben in 11/4m Wendowy states (good to soft). Flurning State 51 2nd to Majorien in 1m 31 listed Longcharop states (good). Samdstone best Remooz neck in 1m group II Veleciend (Turkey) states (good to firm): previously 5/91 4th to Remood in 1m 2/91 group III Haydock states (good to firm).

1990: XAGWAH 4-8-9 M Roberts (5-2) B Henbury 5 nta

COURSE SPECIALISTS TRAINERS S bin Surror
E Duniop
P Cole
W Happes
A Stream A Firench
T Opins
J Reid
J W.
Dene O'Niniti
W Ryan
M Henry
K Dartsy

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD 4.00 FRIALATOR INTERNATIONAL HANDICAP

(4) 3056022 SONGSHEET 13 (0,F,6,5) (Nrs J Tumer) M Saundes 4-10-9 P P Murphy (5)

1996: 903530R RIDGE 4-9-3 H Mulian (8-1) J Bridger 20 ran Songsheet shind 2nd to General Sir Peter to 5i Chepstow handicap (good). Beau Verduze 2/4i 8th to Ansetman in 3i Leicester tendicap (good to 8mm). Sweet Magic beat Tinker Osmaston 3/4i in 5i Sandown handicap (good to 5ot). Scissor Ridge 1/4i 7th to Wildwood Flower in 6i handicap here (good to 5ot). Friendly Brawe 1/4i 4th to The Fristy Farmer in 6i Brighton selling stakes (good to firm). Dennoting Mystery 4/4i 7th to First Principle 8i Bath makken (good).

PRIENDLY BRAVE is preferred to Sweet Magic

4.35 WATSON AND PHILIP CLAIMING HANDICAP (Div i: £4,143: 1m) (22 runners) 613 (21) 5006003 DANCHEG LAWYER 13 (D.F. 6) (Vintege Services Ltd) K Burle 6-0-8 Dame O'Triell 614 (13) 3504003 SCALOME 42 (D.F.) P Standers) M Leher 7-8-13 D McCabe 615 (14) 6004265 WITHOUT FREEDOS 21 (C.F.,6.5) J Fitch-Heyer 3-8-12 J Messawr 616 (20) 0453-09 NATTIE 247 (8) (6) Ducktosen Stud C MB 3-8-11 A Poll (9) 817 (17) 5000006 THREE WEEKS 16 (0) (0) Witeshire) W Murr 4-8-10 J J Reid. 618 (16) 000000- GREAT BEAR 257 (D.F.,6.) (J Drepman) D Chepman 5-8-10 D Wright 619 (2) 000-00 MESKORY'S MUSIC 2563 (W Hober) M Marignide 5-8-8 N Variety 620 (11) 60-0000 CABCHARGE BLUE 15 (D.F.6) (J Wes) T Haughton 5-8-6 T N Variety 621 (3) 0061200 LITTLE PLIGHM 53 (F Page) T Jones 4-9-6 A McSilome 622 (10) 0054221 HARLEGURN WALK 15 (5) (Mes R Doorgesburg R O'Sulfium 8-8-4 J Colum BETTING: 11-2 Meshaw, 13-2 Bepetior) (Johan 6-7 County Thick), Dancing Lawyer, 10-1 oliens.

1998: CRESTED KNIGHT 4-8-2 D Harraco (9-1) C Horgan 21 ran Mouthern sh ha! 2nd to Euro Scapite in 1m 100yd Breezie y bandicap (good to firm). Oxbane '41 2nd to Eyro Breeze in 61 Yarmouth handicap (good to firm). Country Thetich 1%1 3nd to Norsong in 1m 41 Folkestone handicap (good to firm). Hartequin Walk beni Magazine Gap sh hd in 1m 21 Lingifiald aeiling handicap (equitacid).

5.05 MERBURY CATERING CONSULTANTS HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £3,818; 1ml 4f) (9 runners) (4) 4353012 PENNYS FROM HEAVEN 12 (D,G) (F Salmon) H Candy 9-7 1 (4) 4253012 PENNYS FROM HEAVEN 12 (0.6) (F Salmar) H Cardy 9-7 T Oaltin
2 (6) 3-63523 SNOW PARTRIDGE 15 (8) (M Arbit) P Coin 9-6 K Darley
3 (6) 31407100 SEATTLE SWINN 13 (F.5) (Szeatle Swingers) Nrs A Permis 9-4 J Bard
4 (7) 40-0510 ROYAL CASTLE 25 (0.7) (Lord Wassisck) W Hem 9-2 T Sprake
6 (7) 00071200 GLIVO B (7) L Hamson) C Horpen 8-12 Paul Siddery
8 (1) 0001 PRINCE ALEX 53 (0.6) (S Corress Lid) A Sievant 8-9 B Whitworth
7 (8) 0-464 ACTION STATIONS 65 (7) (R Cyzer) C Cyzer 8-1 Martin Dwyer
8 (3) 2030356 HERBSHAN DANCER 8 (Ongrad) Pres 8 Millions 7-12 R Firesch (3)
9 (5) 0-03 ZBETH 123 (J Milks) S Dow 7-10 B Millions 7-12 R Firesch (3) BETTING: 5-2 Prints Alex -7-2 Perinty From Hinteen, 8-1 Royal Castle, 7-1 Snow Partridge, 8-1 Harbshan Dancer 16-1 Souths Swing, Zibek, 12-1 others.

1990: FASIL 9-7 R Hills (14-1) C Benefited 10 nen

Parmys From Heaven 6i 2nd to Aericon Pela in 1 m 4i Goodwood Emsted stakes (good). Seattle Swing 11i 13th to Kenarra in 1 m 2i Chepstow handicap (good). Royal Castle on penultanate start beat neck to 1 m 4i Newmantel handicap (good). Action Stations 21i 4th to Indigo Dawn in 1 m 8i Southwest handicap (titures and). Herbehan Dancer on penultimals start 8i 5th to Kinnescash in 1 m

A moderate contest in which PRINCE ALEX must surely go well

5.35 WATBON AND PHILIP CLAIMING HANDICAP (Div II: £4,143: 1m) (22 runners)

BETTING: 4-1 Step On Doges, 6-1 King Perrol, Rest, La Chalataine, 10-1 Mirrosa, karachi, Fancy Design, Record Telegraph, Ring The Chief, 14-1 others

Step On Degas nack 2nd to Gold Lance in 1m Goodwood Innelsop (good). Mirnosa 111 7th to Rock Falcon in 1m Chapstow seller (good). Scathebury on penultimate start 4141 7th to Victory 1 140yd Lingitaid handicap (good). King Parrot on penultimate start 21 4th to 1s Doke Vita 71 140yd Lingitaid handicap (good). Racing Telegraph 4141 7th to Lunch Party in a71 Yarmouth appromise handicap (grap). Prime Partner 5141 7th to Clytha Hitt Lad in 1m Haydook handicap (good). STEP ON DEGAS is one of the lew in-form runners and should give a good account

Blinkered first time

2.20 Aboo Hom. 2.50 Rewardia. 3.20 Balaclava

3.50 Tumpole, 4.20 Mutamam, 4.55 Sharp Pearl. Timekeeper's top rating: 3.50 ALHOSAAM.

GOING: GOOD

The second secon

A CHARLES THE CONTRACTOR

DRAW: 5F-7F 122YD, LOW NUMBERS BEST

2.20 CARDEN MAIDEN STAKES (£3.799: 1m 5f 89yd) (8 runners) (4) 40 SINGLE MAN 70 8 Baugh 4-9-7 A Cultisms (2) 066- SPARTAN HEARTBEAT 410 C Britism 4-9-7

(3) 0500 TANIYAR 4 R Hollisched 5-9-7 R Cochrane (1) 5 SUSTENUTO 25 R Hollisched 4-9-2 D Guittins (3) (5) 0540 ABDO HOM 61 A Steuert 3-8-12 K Fallon (6) 3240 SPY KNOLL 21 M Stouts 3-8-12 K Fallon (7) 2 AEDLINA 23 5 Kettlerell 3-8-7 J J Fortne (3) ABDO HOM 6 S S Kettlerell 3-8-12 J Fortne (3) 3240 SPY KNOLL 21 M Stouts 3-8-12 J J Fortne (3) 3240 SPY KNOLL 21 M Stouts 3-8-12 J J Fortne (3) 3240 SPY KNOLL 21 M Stouts 3-8-12 J Fortne (3) 4 AEDLINA 23 5 Kettlerell 3-8-7 J Fortne (3) 4 AEDLINA 24 AEDLINA 24 AEDLINA 25 Kettlerell 3-8-7 J Fortne (3) 4 AEDLINA 25 Kettlerell 3-8-7 J Fortne (3) 4 AEDLINA 25 Kettlerell 3-8-7 J Fortne (3) 4 AEDLINA 25 Kett 15-8 Allongta Watch, 9-4 Spy Knoll, 3-1 Sparson Hearthest, 7-1 Abon Hom, 14-1 Acolina, 25-1 Taniyar, 33-1 Sostebulo, 50-1 Single Main

2.50 MARFORD MAIDEN STAKES

4-7 Cherokee Band, 5-1 Da Boss, 6-1 Freedom Quest, Revendia, 7-1 Pure Nobibly, The Magistatia, 8-1 Gentes, Prince Ashleigh, 12-1 Elba Magis.

3.20 DEVA NURSERY HANDICAP 2-Y-0: £4,397: 7f 2yd) (14)

The second of th

3.50 WEATHERBYS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY HANDICAP (£4,124: 1m 7f 195yd) (11)

Lady Herries in Provent D Eberson

9-2 Forge, 5-1 Altresam, 11-2 Campaspa, 8-1 Enerty Park. 13-2 Tumpole, 7-1 Beaumoni, Tup, 10-1 others.

4.20 HESWALL CONDITIONS STAKES

6-4 Mutemann, 11-4 Golden Dice, 7-2 Karrafil, 4-1 Conformation

4.55 TARPORLEY HANDICAP

11 (13) 6030 PRINCHLY SOUND 12 (CLUE) J same 2-3 D Sweeney (3) 85
72 (7) 3000 U-NO-NARRY 28 (CD.F) R Hollinsbead 47-13 M Carlisle 78
13 (6) 4000 POLLY SOUGHTLY 12 (B.D.F) M Standard 47-12
Lale Sibson 87 Late Gérson 87 9-2 That Man Agam, 6-1 Palacegate Lack, 7-1 Stamp Peart, 8-1 Lady Shenif, Gi La High, 10-1 Top Of The Form, Caution, Secan At Vicatiey, 12-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS CHESTER: Trainers: H Cecil, 11 sanners from 38 numers, 29.9%, Mrs. M Reveley, 4 from 19, 21.1%, M Stone, 16 from 77, 20.8%, 8 McMahon, 10 from 61, 16.4%, P Cole, 8 from 51, 15.7% B H48, 12 from 80, 15.0%, Jocksys: 6 Bardwell, 5 stoners from 27 index, 23.8%, A Cultiser, 6 from 77, 22.2%, M Roberts, 10 from 53, 18.9%, J Fortune, 11 from 72, 15.3%; K Fallon, 16 from 109, 14.7%.

PERTIF: Transers: Mrs M Reveley 24 writters from 61 numers, 39.3%, J Goldia, 15 from 54, 27.8%, G Richards, 23 from 100, 23.0%; P Montenth, 18 from 87, 20.7%; M Barnes, 6 from 43, 11.0%, Only qualifiers. Jockeys: A Johnson, 4 writters from 5 rides, 80.0%, P Moen, 27 from 87, 31.0%, A Dobboth, 19 from 87, 21.8%; R Guest, 6 from 30, 20.0%, F Lealty, 4 from 21, 19.0%; T Reed, P from 53, 15.1%

Shmoose stepped up in class

RACEUNE 0930 168+ GOODWOOD 101 201 CHESTER 102 202 PERTH 103 203 RISH 120 220

SHMOOSE, the hugely impressive winner of a maiden race at Newbury, is likely to be supplemented today for the Cheveley Park Stakes at Newmarket next Tuesday (Our Newmarket Correspondent

Caerleon filly, is to pay a group one."

£12,000 at this late entry stage. Simon Crisford, the operation's racing manager, said yesterday: The final decision as to whether Shmoose is supplemented will be made this morning, but is is highly likely. We think she can make Godolphin, which owns the the big step from a maiden to

THUNDERER 2.10 Trilby. 2.40 Pentlands Flyer. 3.10 Eden Dancer. 3.40 Vintage Taittinger. 4.10 Johns The Boy. 4.45 Terdiad.

2.10 BALLATHIE HOUSE HOTEL NOVICES HURDLE (£2,608: 3m 110yd) (5 runners)

2.40 GLENGOYNE NOVICES CHASE (£3,566: 2m 4f 110yd) (10)

23,300. 201 41 LINLARIEN 111 (C.D.F.G.S) Mes M Reseley 7-11-2 ... P Niven 105-3 JALINTY GENERAL 8 C Parker 6-10-10 ... R Supple 3 PS JOHANSH 123 (D.F) Mes E Steck 7-10-10 ... K Johnson 5 PS JOHANSH 123 (D.F) Mes E Steck 7-10-10 ... B Berke 5 O4- MAYSE O'STADUL 125 (D.G.D. D Lamb 7-10-10 ... B Berke 6 400- MAYSE O'STAT 177 Mes 0 Remeson 6-10-10 ... T Reed 7 312- PENTLANDS R.VER 132 (D.G.) H Johnson 6-10-10 A Maguire 6 SPP. SUPPR SUP 144 J Barckey 5-10-8 ... A Thorston 9 6-35 MONKEY WENCH 26 (BF,D.F) Mrs J Goodfellow 6-10-5 10 /545 ON GOLDEN POND 19 (F.G) N Mason 7-10-5 ____ N Guest 5-4 Lintelhen, 2-1 Penilands Flyer, 10-1 Jaunity General, 14-1 Mayte O'Gracy, On Golden Pond, 16-1 Monkey Wench, 20-1 Music BRz, 20-1 annual

3.10 ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND CLAIMING HURDLE (\$2,284: 2m 110yd) (5)

3.40 LOTHIAN PLUMBING AMATEUR RIDERS HANDICAP HURDLE (\$2,801: 2m 4(110yd) (5)

I-B Eden Dancar, II-4 Gundwest, 8-1 Paley Court, 14-1 Xalpeta, 50-1 Topup.

11-8 Vintage Talkinger, 11-4 Chester, 100-30 Mildraff, 11-2 oliuss. 4.10 B O S HANDICAP CHASE (£4,143: 3m) (5) 1 FLZ JOHNS THE BOY 35 (D.G.S) M Mason 11-11-13 R Guest
2 31-2 MUMAY 19 (D.F.G.S) M Bornes 7-11-41 A Thornton
3 29°1 RUSTY BLADE 26 (B.C.D.F.G) P Montable 8-11-4 ... R Julyason
4 UBA4 WALLS COURT 26 (B.F.G.) 18 inches 10-10-9 M Molcony
5 O-P5 MR SLOAN 6 J Bolde 7-10-0 Mr O McPhall (7)

6-4 Racty Blade, 7-2 Johns The Boy, Nigway, Walls Court, 20-1 Mr Sloen. 4.45 FESTIVAL NOVICES HURDLE (E2,634: 2m) (7)

2-5 Terriad, 9-2 Mystic Times, 5-1 Sandabar, 33-1 Caroller, 50-1 others.

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S THREE MEETINGS IT.

Nottingham Going: good to firm
2.15 (Im54yd) 1, Rembling Rose (J Reld.
9-2): 2, Turning (K Fallon, 3-1); 3, Night
Rule (11-1) Shimsal 8-4 fav. 14 ran. 31, 61.
M Stoute Tote: £5.60, £1.30; £1.70; £6.00.
DF: £8.60 CSF. £18.75. Tho: £76.50.

2.45 (1m 54yd) 1, Northern Blessing (J Red, 9-1); 2, Burning Truth (4-9 lav); 3, Waterwever (7-2), 8 ran, NF, Jaza, On Merit, 51, 25-1, P Harris, Tote: £9.60; £1.50, £1.10, £1.10, DF; £4.00, Trio. £5.20, CSF-£13 03. 2.13 (6) 15yd) 1, lichteyaar (R Hills, 8-13 tev); 2 Final Tango (10-1); 3, Wigging (18-1) 18 ran. 3-4, 1-4 i R Amstrong, Totae £1.40, £1.10 £3.40, 24.70 DF, £18.40. Trio. £92.60, CSF; £7.76.

3.45 (61 15yd) 1, Middle East (J Carroll, 9-1): 2. Maladens (9-2 favl, 3. Superbit (12-1). 19 ran NR La Wolta. 11, 114. T Barron Tote £13.90; £3.70, £2.80, £4.80, DF-£30 £0 Trio £580.80, CSF-£51.16 4.15 (1m ti 213vdi 1, Tensheen (S Senders, 7-2 tav); 2 Iron Mountein (13-2); 3, Narrogin (12-1); 4, Red Maple (16-1), 18 ran, 14, 1 bl. M Prescott, Tote: £4.60; £1.50, £2.30, £6.10, £4.20, DF: £15.10.

Trio. £159 80 CSF £30.54 Tricast: £266.25. 2-80.20. 4.45 (Im 1) 213yd) 1, Civil Liberty (Mr A 8akting, 11-1), 2, Riccarton (9-1); 3, Augustan (6-1); 4, Tajar (9-1) Fem's Governor 3-1 fav. 18 ran. ½, 2, G Lewis, Tote 213 60; 22.60, 21.70, 22.30, 23.20. DF: £44 60 Trio: £66.00 CSF: £107.28. Tricast: £630 73 5.15 (2m Byd) 1, Stoned Imaculate (K Fallon, 6-4 fav); 2. Spowitz (12-1); 3, Arissig (12-1); 4, Alagna (16-1), 18 ran. 1/41, 81. F. Murphy, Tote: 52-20; 51.10, 55.30, 52-60, 55.50. DF: 514.90. Tho: 515.40 CSF: 523 91, Tricast: \$190.30. Placapot: £143.50. Quadpot: £55.00.

Going: good to firm 2.35 (2m 11 hole) 1. Galloping Guns (Michael Breman, 4-1); 2. Sprig Muslin (7-1); 3. The Executor (9-4 last), 10 ran, 31 2; 8. Lewellyn, Tota: £3.40, £1.70, £1.70, £1.70, £1.40, DF. £10.00, Tho: £12.20, CSF: £29.46, Tricast: £70.59. 3.05 (2m 11 hole) 1, Mystik Day (C Maude, 1-4 lav); 2, lie De Librate (10-1); 3, Aquavita (25-1) 5 ran. 4, 91 M Pipe. Tote: \$1.20, \$1.10, \$2.40. DF: \$2.60. CSF:

Plumpton

3.35 (2m 61 ch) 1, Ruth's Boy (R Johnson, 4-1); 2, Mozenno (8-4 fav); 3, The Shy Padre (5-1), 6 ran, NR John Roger, 18, dat, Mes A Embiricos Tote (82.0; 52 10, £1.10 DF-£8.70 CSF: £8.99. 4.05 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Fabuton (C Maude, 11-4), 2, Zelibe (11-8 fav); 3, Weather Wise (15-8) 5 ran. 11, 181. M Pipe Toter £4.00; £1 20, £1.20. DF: £2.90. CSF £5.40 4.35 (2m ch) 1. Victory Arthem (B Fenton, 12-1); 2. Pair Of Jacks (7-2); 3. Dewn Chemos (9-2). Gebish 2-1 lav. 7 ren. 6, 7l. P. Clarke. Tota: \$13.00; £3.80, £2.30. DF: £34.10. CSF: £45.53

5.05 (2m 4f hole) 1, Canton Venture (P Hide, 6-4 tav), 2, Stram (7-2); 3, Sorbiere (12-1), 7 ran. 6l, 3l, S Woods, Tote: £2.50; £1.60, £3.10, DF: £4.20, CSF: £6.99, Stratford

OLI CLLIUT U
Going: good to firm
2.25 (2m 110yd hdie) 1, Almapa (T
Descombe, 6-1); 2. Aubum Boy (evers
fav); 3, Highest Roots (2D-1.6 fam. 6; 2. R
Hodges Tote: £5 70; £2.80; £1.50. DF:
£8.20 CSF-£12 02.
2.55 (2m 110yd hdie) 1, Fataliste (A P
McCoy, 8-15 fax); 2, Dureston Biff (88-1); 3,
techyd-Da (5-2) 6 fam. 11, 22 M Pipe.
Tote: £1.50; £7 40, £4.40. DF: £28.00. CSF.
£85.97.
3.25 (2m 11 110xd ch) 1, Imrau Pofenii (A 3.25 (2m 1f 110yd ch) 1. Jazzy Refrain (A Maguire, 2-1 |i-lav); 2. Dubaile (2-1 |i-lav); 3. Yubralee (2-1 |i-lav), 4 ran. 1141, 23. L Wells. Tole: £2.90. DF: £1.80. CSF: £5.72 Ness (168: 2250) Dr. E. John Coff: 53.76 3.55 (2m 6f 110yd India) 1, Majoris Law (A. Maguira, 5-1); 2, Sheriff (11-2); 3, Criscop's Best (25-1), Shahrani 10-11 for, 5 ran, SI, 1%, If Simpson, Tote 56,70; 12.60, 51 80, Dr. £13.80, CSF, 528.74

2.1 ou. ur.: £13.50. CSF. £28.74 4.25 (3m ch) 1, Geistasori Jane (T. J. Murphy, 8-11 lav); 2, Commanche Creek (2-1); 3, Little Tincture (25-1), 5 ran. 101, 21. P. Nicholts. Tote: £1.80; £1.10, £1.90. DF: £1.50. CSF. £2.46. \$1.50. CSF-62.48
4.55 (2m 33 Indie) 1, Scarlet Rambler (J. Custoty, 7-1); 2, Johnsny-K (8-13 fav); 3, Weish Spinner (12-1), 7 ran. 81, 51, Miss H. Kright Tote: £10.60; £3.30, £1.30 DF: £3.00. CSF, £10.53 Placecot £59.50. Quedpot £14.90.

➤ REWARDING TIMES ◄

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THE TIMES

Robson waiting in wings as Benfica search for saviour

WILL Bobby Robson get a new job in Portugal? Will Graeme Souness keep his in Turin? Benfica, of Lisbon, once the pride of Portuguese football, lost yet again on Sunday, 3-l away to modest Rio Ave, and enough was enough. Manuel José, the manager appointed last season was promptly dismissed and his assistant, Mario Wilson, temporarily promoted. Robson, moved upstairs by

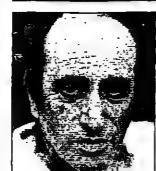
Barcelona to make way for the Dutchman, Louis van Gaal, was reported to be happy to go back to Portugal to manage his third club there, after largely successful spells at Sporting Lisbon and Porto. Robson, however, said that he had not yet been approached by Benfica. Barcelona would doubtless be happy not to have to pay him to the end of his lucrative contract.

For Souness, the roof fell in again when his expensivelyassembled Torino team crashed 3-0 in their Serie B match at Pescara. Their recent, gallant 2-1 conquest of Sampdoria in the first leg of an Italian Cup tie seemed to indicate that things were look-ing up, but now the birds of ill omen are hovering again.

Switching from four in line to a sweeper defence, Torino seemed to have got things right at the back, while Gigi Lentini, back after years with AC Milan and Atalanta, was striking form. Until Pescara. There are rumours that Carlo Mazzone, the veteran former manager of Roma and Cagliari, will take over if Torino fail to beat Genoa on Sunday.

Internazionale lead the Italian championship. having have qualified for the World won all three of their games. Cup finals, but laboriously.

GLANVILLE



Overseas Football

promoted Brescia, was desperately close. Two remarkable left-foot goals by "China" Recoba, of Uruguay, saved the

Victory at Bologna was foilowed on Sunday by an edgy 3-2 home win over Fiorentina. Gigi Simoni, Roy Hodgson's successor as Inter's manager, who nearly lost his job before the season started, was frank about the win. "We lacked speed," he said, "and we made so many bad mistakes in defence. If we play like this in future, we can't possibly expect to win very often. Today. Fiorentina played better than

us and lost." Fiorentina's first goal was scored by Gabriel Batistuta, who has half a dozen from the first three games. How long can Daniel Passarella, the Argentina manager, keep him out of the team? True, they

Ravanelli seeks deal

returned to Italy after holding talks over his future with Steve Gibson, the Middlesbrough chairman.

Middlesbrough are pre-pared to cut their £7.5 million valuation and believe that the unsettled striker will have to slash his personal demands to complete a deal.

Sheffield Wednesday were Wizards, back to Ibrox.

yesterday to pay Southamp-ton £1.6 million for Jim Magilton. Wednesday had offered £600,000 for the 28-year-old Northern Ireland

midfield player. Rangers have opened talks aimed at bringing Richard Gough, the former Scotland captain now with Kansas City

perverse to ignore him in the first place.
While Inter march on, Mi-

lan, their local rivals, are adrift. Patrick Kluivert, the controversial Holland striker. out them ahead away to Udinese after only six min-utes, but Oliver Bierhoff, the powerful Germany centre forward, struck back twice, the winner resulting from a feeble back-pass by Bogarde, the Holland full back. Inter's winner against Florentina had similar origins.

Silvio Berlusconi, Milan's owner, announced that his team had too many foreigners (well, who agreed to buy them?) and should use more Italians, Fabio Capello, the manager, has rejoined them after winning the Spanish championship with Real Madrid, using seven foreigners at a time.

One Italian that Milan seem unlikely to be permitted to buy back is the defender. Christian Panucci, who was signed for Real by Capello. The Spanish club, annoyed by Milan's persistence, have now offered Panucci a fabulous new fouryear contract.

Brazil have won the under-17 world championship, beating Ghana 2-1 in the final in Cairo. The Ghanaians were accused of fielding several players who had figured in the

tournament years ago.
African junior teams are
often under such suspicion. partly because in sub-Sahara Africa, birth records can be sketchy, partly because there have been past instances of

In Rio de Janeiro, Fluminense's disgusted sup-porters literally turned their backs on the team as they lost 3-0 to Recife.

Edmundo, alias "The Animai", exored all six goals for Vasco da Gama against União São João, the first after 27 seconds. Edmundo, who is due to join Fiorentina in December, faces charges over the deaths of three people in a car accident, is being pursued for maintenance for a son he denies is his, and also has the tax authorities on his trail. He may be pleased to get to



McManaman believes that the two great goals he has scored recently will still fail to win over his critics

McManaman takes shot at critics

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

TWO important matches graced by two magnificent goals, scored by one enigmatic player. Steve McManaman. the Liverpool forward, produced two moments of footballing magic to conjure two weaving runs at high speed, starting from inside his own half, first against Celtic, in the Uefa Cup, and again, a week later, in the defeat of Aston Villa in the FA Carling Premiership.

Not bad for a player often criticised for being a poor finisher but, despite those two

the winning goal for Walsall against Nottingham Forest

tonight could mean more to

him than just Coca-Cola Cup glory. It could also help to

secure him a long-term future

with the Nationwide League

Skinger scored the only

goal of the first leg of this

second division club.

KEENE on CHESS

man believes that he will always be saddled with the unfortunate tag.

Even if I scored 20 goals, if I then missed a couple of easy ones, people would still say I was terrible at finishing," he said. "The Villa goal was just a case of getting into the box and having a shot. The goal in Glasgow brought relief. because we hadn't played too

Even his own manager, Roy Evans, gives credence to the theory that McManaman wastes too many chances. "Macca was excellent. Much of his work goes unnoticed." Evans said. "but he can be

Ground last week. The mid-

field player is on loan from

Bristol Rovers and feels that

his future lies away from the

West Country club. "I don't see a future with Bristol

Rovers and they have said

that if someone else comes in

for me, then I can go," he said.

Forest will be without Jan Ola

Hjelde, the Norwegian de-

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

BASEBALL AMERICAN LEAGUE: Baltimore 4 Detroit

New York Tankees & Toronto Minnesota 5 Minaulae 2: Cadand Seetile 4 Postponed: Kansas City Cleveland

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Flonda 3 New York Mens 10, Prinsburgh 3 St Louis 1, Allante 3 Montreel 2 (11 mns), San Diego 5 San Francisco 11: Cincennali 3 Houston 6

BO)(ING

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NFL): Jacksons 29 Pittsburgh 21

Macca will always score and. if he keeps going in this mood, there will be a lot

The only way he can answer Glenn Hoddle, who picks the England team, is to do well for his club, and with two great goals like he's got recently, he's certainly doing

McManaman's scoring form is a welcome bonus for Liverpool, Despite missing several key players, they still

The match on Monday saw him return to Anfield for the managed a convincing 3-0 first time to face his former victory against Aston Villa on club and he barely got a look-Monday night, thanks largely to a forward line that would be in, and was booed every time that he touched the ball. Allan Evans, the Villa Skinner has two goals in his sights

coach, said: "He has to start working to improve his partnership with Dwight Yorke. Wolverhampton Wander-It's not good enough. Stan is ers are confident that they can an emotional person, but now we want him to knuckle down avoid becoming the victims of giant-killing act against and work for Aston Villa. If he Fulham at Molineux by inwas worried about the prospect of returning to Liverpool. creasing the 1-0 lead they I'm glad it's over now, I expect earned in the first leg. Stoke him to start working really City have even less to worry about against troubled Burnhard for us. He's a quality ley, who travel to the Britanplayer and we all believe that nia Stadium already 4-0 qualities will come

FOR THE RECORD

Villa Park in May.

since his £7 million transfer

and now the Villa hierarchy

are keen to see some sort of

return on their investment.

Power of Pow a warning

By Sydney Friskin

AUSTRALIA took a step nearer a place in the Junior World Cup semi-finals by taking over the leadership of pool A with an emphatic 4-0 rictory over Holland at Milton Keynes yesterday.
The powerful Australians

dominated the match with lightning raids on both flanks, launched by Bolton and Elder. Holland attempted to counter this by building up steadily in midfield, but, invariably, these moves foundered, as did their attempts to convert short corners, so often a potent factor in their make-up.

Australia took the lead in

the fifteenth minute with a goal by Webster who rounded off a combined assault with a brilliant scoop into the net. Four minutes before the

interval, Wess increased their lead by converting a short corner with a strong hit along

the ground. Holland hinted at a reviva at the start of the second half but their plight worsened in the 51st minute when Choppy delivered the ball to Taylor, the unmarked outside left. who drove it into an empty

Australia tightened their grip on the match three minutes later when Bolton scored chance of saving the match. Five short corners came their way in the last few minutes. but all to no avail.

The teams had met early this month at Terrassa, with Spain winning 3-1 and 6-4, but Belgium's form showed a marked improvement yes-

Spain's fate will be decided

HISSULTS: Pool A: India 8 Cuba 0. Pool 0: Egypt 2 Japan 4: Pakistan 6 Germany 2. England 2 Argentina 5

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent

There was good judgement all round on this hand from the match in which Deutsch beat Nickell to determine the number one USA team for the upcoming Bermuda Bowl. Dealer South Love all

70J1085

+Q10974

+Q52 N. 9 A 10 7 ♦KQ86432 W E **♦K832** -6 **∳195** VAK642 *AJS **#J7**

Freen 4 H 5 H All Pass Contract: Five Hearts by South. Lead; ace of spades.

passed. A well-judged hand all round: Four Hearts and Four Spades were all routine actions. South had no reason to Spades make. Five Hearts and expect Four Spades to be going Five Spades go one down. down, but nor did he have a Advocates of the Law of particularly good hand in Total Tricks' would find their method working well on this hand. Each side has a ten-card attack, so he correctly passed. When Four Spades went back to North he could see fit, so there should be twenty that, as South had not doutricks available, and thar's bled, the defensive prospects how it works out. Each side were poor - so he pressed on can make ten tricks playing in

South's One Heart. North's ing to try Five Spades, and so

Four Hearts and East's Four

HANDSEL

a. To barter

b. To give a present

c. A folkloric boy

a. A potent spirit b. A carpenter's joint

c. An Afghan tribe

their own suit. to Five Hearts. If East's hand had been slightly stronger (say ☐ The Times Book of Bridge 1, a compendium of some of his spades were headed by KQJ10), he might have considered going on to Five Spades. these columns, is now avail-But the correct bid on that able in all good bookshops or hand would be Double - the direct from the publisher, tournament style is to use the B. T. Batsford, on 01376 bid to say 'partner I want to go 321276, price £6.99 (plus £1

p&p). □ Robert Sheehan writes on on in my suit, but if you are unsuitable you can pass'. Finally, when Five Hearts bridge Monday to Friday in went back to West he consid- Sport and in the Weekend ered his hand too unpromissection on Saturday.

By Philip Howard

WORD-WATCHING

HICKSITE

HASARD

a. Grey-haired

a. A travellers' campsite

b. Made of shoddy wood

b. A reversed escutcheon

Answers on page 50

c. A deviant Quaker

c. A type of vulture

By RAYMOND KEENE 20 Ng3 CHESS CONCESSIONDENT Bg6 h6 22 h5 Bh7

Kasparov's record

There can have been few occasions in the history of chess when a former candidate for the World Championship has taken part on the receiving end of a simultaneous display. Nevertheless, this occurred in Kasparov's record breaking exhibition against the full Argentine national team in Buenos Aires, Amongst Kasparov's opponents was grandmaster Oscar Panno who, in 1956, participated in the World Championship Candidates

tournament in Amsterdam. After a complicated opening Kasparov initiated a trade of queens. In spite of having sacrificed a pawn early on Kasparov exerted great pressure in the centre and by utilising a far advanced passed pawn broke through to achieve a winning endgame.

White: Kasparov Black: Panno Buenos Aires, September 1997

Nimzo-Indian Defence 4 Qc2 0-0 Bxc3+ b6 c5 895 Ne4 Not2 11 Qd3 Rxd8 13 Rxd3 14 Be4 **d**5 15 cxd5 16 Ne2 NJ7

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is

from the game Sirtlanov -

White is a piece down and

thus needs a dramatic contin-

Solution on page 50

uation. What did he play?

Teske, Poland 1997.

WINNING MOVE

N7 24 Rc4 25 Rxe7+ Kxe7 Kd6 Re8 Re5 Kvu5 Bg8 Bb3 Beil MD6 34 aub6 35 e4. Bd5 Bb7 36 Ke3 37 Nf5 Baze4 Black resigns 38 g4

Diagram of final position abcdeigh

Times book

The Times Winning Moves 2 contains 240 chess puzzles from international grandmaster Raymond Keene's daily column in The Times, and is available now from bookshops or from B.T. Batsford Ltd (tel: 01376 321276 at £6.99 plus postage and packing).

Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

GLASGOW: British super-teather-weight championship (12 mds) C Shepherd (Carlste) bt D McHate (Glasgow) ssc 10th. Light-middle (8 mds) J Docherry (Ednoburgh) bt D Quacos (Crawley) nd 8th Light-weller (8 mds) M Breslin (Barthead) bt S Tudesti (Walefold) pts Super-teather (6 mds) JT Kelly (Hartiepool) bt G Burrell (Mrseably) pts

BOWLS

WORTHUNG PAVILION: Financial Options Home Counties Association championships: Singles: Semi-linals: M Hethrose (Oxfordzhiro) to J Stradling (Berkstwat 21-16. J Stevens: Surrey) to F Morsoe (Succeed 21-13. Final: Stevens at Hethrose 21-15. Pairs: Semi-finals: G Nicholts and L Delson (Survey) to J M Edeny and J Stradling (Borkstwat 27-18: H Watts and G Hamrigton (Oxfordshre): w/o M Barrocki and F. Smith (Buchinghamshre) of Rinky and J Stradling (Borkstwat 27-18: H Watts and G Hamrigton (Oxfordshre): W Geet of Oxfordshre (G Lucas) 24-19. Meditean (R Kith) bt Sursex (J Jeffers) 28-9. Final: Buckinghamshre it Middlesen (24-17. Fours: Semi-finals: Oxfordshre (G Moon) to Belischne (P Swinn): 25-16; Surroy (M Oxerington) to lear (F Howell): 28-17. Final: Surrey to Oxfordshre 22-14. INTERNATIONAL OPEN: First-round drew: H Duti (Scoti) v J Henry (Inc). I Taylor (Aust v N Bourk (re), in Michiano (Pais) v N Wilsens (Wates), 1. Schubaci, (Pais) v L Gett (Engl: A Allouck, Engl v S Geston (Engl): V Harsty (Engl): W Hachards (Engl: A Straw (Engl: W Rechards (Engl: A Straw (Engl: W Rechards (Engl: A F Nesse) (Wolon) v B Meditors (Scoti). G Richartson (Scot) v R Neswaran (Engl: A E Thortson (Engl: V M Johnston (Inv).

CRICKET WOMEN'S MATCH: Ashlord, Kent (one day: England 215-5: England Under-21 161-9 (C Edwards 71, M Raymard 3-16) England won by 54 rurs.

CYCLING

TOUR OF SPAIN: Sweenth stage (Canges de Onic to Sontander, 170lm) 1, J. Sworada (Cz. Mapet) 3th 54(m) 7-cc., 2, M Wussi (Ger. Lotus); 3, A di Basso (I), Sanco), 4, L. Michaelsen (Den, TMIQ, 5, A Youhoulen (Holl, Rabobank), 6, S Cologe (I) Refin) all same time, Lending overall positions: 1, A Zille (Swizz, ONCE) 65th 52min 2sec. 2, F Escurio (Sp. Keime) at 2mn 46sec, 3, L. Dufan; (Switz, Lotus), 3-39, 4, Zunu (I), Asuc) 5,07; 5, R Hessi (Sp. Keime) 6:17, 6, M Sansono (Sp. Keime) 7, 10.

FOOTBALL

EUROPEAN UNDER-21 CHAMPION-SHIP: Qualifying group stic latata of Casch Republic 5 (in Valleda) WELSH CUP: Second round draw: Préslegate St Andrews v Cacrsais: New-lown v Prival, Ruthin Town v Cemacs Vrys-More; Galisheld v Holywell Town; Phrysader Town v This: Byrnto Broughton v Pint Town United, Connah's Quay Mornacy v Porthinadog: Mold Alon or Landymog Unced v Lampets Town: Celn Draxis v Nanile Valor. Priighton Town v Banqur Cay, Landymod Vaels v Holytoad Hotepur; EUROPEAN UNDER-21 CHAMPION-

Buckley Toers v Lev At Caemarion Toers v Chith AAA, Trehand, Americ v Ferricale Athlenc, Trehand Stars v Ammaridod Town, Afan Lido v Ton Pentre, Goyte Lihiled v Chepston Toen or Pentruscelor Rangers, Portladake Ahlenc v Hoover Spers, Lierwein v Steven Afrileic Carmarthen Toen v Aberaman Artielic or Porth Tywin Suburbs; BP Llandanov v Havertondwest Co: Porthcant Toen v Bridgend Town, By Rangers v Blaershondda or Pompyridd Town; Fields Park P v AFC Phondida or Birkonlerly Athletic Gare or UNIC v Grange Harsogues

Harleguins

Ties to be played on October 18.

Monday's late results FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: LIM

Southampton 7 1 2 4 7 18 2 Southampton 7 1 1 5 5 11 4 VALINHALL CONFERENCE; Hodnesland 1 Look 0 UniBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Astron 2 Workson; Enterty 0 First division: Astron 2 Workson; Charleston; Disparham and Redbindge 2 Bromley 1 First division; Bognor Regs 0 Croydon 1 FA CARLSBERG WASE: First round qualifying replay; Bactonia Rovers 0 Burschool Rovers 0 Burschool Rovers 0 Burschool Rovers 0 Manchester Linded 4 Portion of Manchester Linded 4 Section 1 Second division; Leobason 3 Manchester City 3 Second division; Leobason 3 Manchester City 3 Second division; Leobason 3 Nanchester City 3 Second division; Leo

FA YOUTH CUP: First round qualifying: Presion 1 Sheffeld Wadnesday 0 Prainti-nary round: Louin 0 Note County 9 PORTUGUESE LEAGUE: Sporting Lisbon 1 Boavista 0, Leca 2 FC Porto 3 ARGENTINE LEAGUE Fano Card Come I

RUGBY UNION

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Bishop Vessy's 0 RGS Worcester 49, KS Soldhampton 20 Dauntseys 7, Lalymer Lipper 41 Loud Williams, Thame 5, Reeds 0 Fem Coll 34, Roughy 0 Chelterham 26, Wellington Coll 16 St Edward's, Oxford 31; Woodhouse Grove 94 Leeds GS 3 Corrected result: Epsom 18 Harrow 8

SAILING

WHITBREAD ROUND-THE-WORLD RACE: First leg (Southampton to Cape Town): Leading positions (with distance to faish): 1.5F Language (Swe) 6.891.2 miles, 2, Ment Cup (Monaco) 6.891.3, 3, Innovefrom Kvaerner (Nor) 6,893, 4, Silk Cut (GB) 6,896, 5, Chossie Racing (US) 6,910 5, 6 Toshiba (US) 6,913

SNOOKER

HEREFORD: German Oper: Third quality-ing round: S Ali (Pak) bit T Murphy (N Ire; 5-4: L Walker (Wales) bit J Swall (N Ire) 5-3 B Morgan (Eng) bit J Petry (Eng) 5-3 B Snaddon (Scot) bit S Or Connor (Ire) 5-3; J Small (Scot) bit K Braughton (Eng) 5-3; J Fenguson (Eng) bit A Hicks (Eng) 5-4. S James (Eng) bit N Walker (Eng) 5-4. J Burnett (Scot) bit R Lawler (Eng) 5-1.

SPEEDWAY ELITE LEAGUE: Poole 48 Swinton 42 PREMIER LEAGUE: Glasgow 64 Ovlord NORTHERN TROPHY: Second leg: Newcastio 37 Hull 52 (Hull win 104-75 on

PROVIDENCE, Rhode Island: US Women's protessional championship. Seminals: Swifter English it N Granger (SA) 94, 5-9 9-7, 9-0, F Geaves. English Shomor (Engl. 1-9, 3-7, 9-2, 8-3, 9-6 Final, Wright in Geaves 9-3, 9-1, 9-3

TABLE TENNIS

GHBA, Jeperz Ogirnure Gup: Men: Skiy-J.
les: Serni-Imalis: J-O Waldner (Swe) bt v-O
Sern (Chrus) (5-2; 2-1-5; 2-1-6; 2-1-6;
Wang Ligh (China) bt J-Roiskopt (Gen) 2144; 21-13; 18-21; 21-14. Pinal: Waldner bt
Wang 21-11, 23-21; 21-18. Doubtes: SerniBhala: H Shibutari and K Maisushite
(Japan) bt Lee Chul-Seung and Park SangJoon (Sikor) 21-20; 21-23; 23-21; Wang
Joh and Yan Sen (Chrus) bt Yoo Nam-Iyu
and lum Bong-Chul (Sikor) 21-16; 21-18
Final: Wang and Yan bt Shibutari and Misstatite 21-15; 21-12; Women: Singles:
Semi-linals: Weng Chen (China) bt Park
Hee-Jung (Sikor) 21-15; 21-10; 21-20; Sun
Jin (China) bt Noth (Hun) 21-15; 14-21
21-14; 21-15; Final: Wang bt Sun 21-13; 1921; 21-9; 21-6; Doubtes: Semi-linals: Park
Hee-Jung and Jum Moo-kiya (Sikor) bt
Gao and A Feng (US) 21-17; 21-18; Ryu JiHye and Leun-Si (Sikor) bt Suk Sol-Jim and
Suk Eun-Mill Skor) 21-19; 21-19; Final: Ryu
and Lee bt Park, and kum 21-14; 14-21;
21-21

SQUASH

Kick-off 7 30 unless stated

First division QPR v Portsmouth (7 45) Coca-Cota Cup Socond round, second leg Stoke (4) v Burnley (0) (7 45) Wolves (1) v Fulham (0) (7 45) Watsall (1) v Notim Forest (0) (7 45)

Southampton v Leeds (7 45)

lationwido League

Bell's Scottish League Kilmamock v Rangers (7 45) ... DR MARTIENS LEAGUE Premier division: Forest Green v Dorchostor (7 45), Saltsbury v Morthyr (7 45) Michael division: Pagel R v Grentlent, Southann division: Nowport AFC v Clevelion

v Clemeton
UNIBOND LEAGUE Premier division:
Bishop Auckland v Boslon: First division:
Bradlord Pi: Ave v Whitey
ISTHMAN LEAGUE: First division: Levion
Pennert v Aldershet Town. Socond divacon: Creshart v Westron
ANON INSUMANCE COMPRIATION: First
division: Luton in Westron (2.0), Oxford
United v Southernplan (at Wilmay Town FC).

TODAY'S FIXTURES

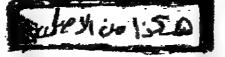
Tottenham v Chariton (at Leyton Orom FC)
Wimblodon v Malweil (at Plough Lanc, 2 0)
Serindon v Malweil (at Plough Lanc, 2 0)
Serindon v Manweit (7 15)
PONTEN'S LEAGUE: Premier division:
Bofton v Sunderland (at Leigh RML 7 0),
West Bromwich v Oddham (7 0) First division:
Bofton v Sunderland (at Leigh RML 7 0),
West Bromwich v Oddham (7 0) Second
division: Cartale v Stockport (7 0) Rochdate
v Blackpool (7 0), Shrewboury 8 0)
Oromotor v Chesker (7 0) Hull v
Scarbonough (7 0)
LEAGUE OF WALES: Aberysnyth v
Caorcars: Caomarion v Coney (7 45);
Varys Mon v Fint Town, Ebbw Vale v
Cermitron Town v Inter Cable-Tet, Cernars
Thrys Mon v Fint Town, Ebbw Vale v
Cermitron Town v Huller v Horrow Ma,
Serindon Supormanne v Tuilley, Wantage v
Shortwood
ARNOTT INSURANCE NORTH LEAGUE:
Parst division: Bilancham Town v Morthalleyton, Crook v Morpoham Town v MorthalleyTorom Poofing e Bilangham Munton v South
Shelte, Shidon v South ReASUE:
Prest division: Kenton LeAGUE:
Prest Muston LeAGUE:
Prest Muston

oneitos, Shidon v Sochom Red Sas WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE Past division: Cameroury Lordowood, SCREWRX DIRECT LEAGUE, Premier division: Taurton v Tructon

division: Prescot Cables v St Helens Remobotiom v Nowcastle Town BANKS'S BRIEWERY LEAGUE. Premer division Lye Town v Stellord T JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE. First divi-sion: Cowes Sports v Lymmytorr, Eastleigh v Portsmouth Portsmouth

Units Ports of United Counties League:
Premair division: N Spencer / Wildrough,
Spalding v Yaday

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEague:
Pramier division, Denaby v Trackley
Hatarn v Ossett Albom
FA YOUTH CUP: First qualitying round:
Wordnosheld v Cambridge Gity First qualitying round replay, Althorstone v Halesowen
Town, Yearding v St.
Qualifying round, King s Lymp v Whenhor
PRESS & JOURNAL HIGHEAND LEAGUE:
Cove v Peterhead, Nam County v Eight OTHER SPORT



English 1

 $\mathcal{Z}_{i_{1}^{m}(i_{1}^{m})}$

i graje

Lega.

TENNIS

TOULOUSE: Men's tournament: First round. I Herman (38) to D Vacek (C2) 6-4, 1-6 6-3; M Martoli (III) bit D Vacek (C2) 6-4, 1-6 6-3; M Martoli (III) bit D Vacek (C2) 6-4, 1-6 6-3; M Martoli (III) bit D Vacek (C2) 6-4, 1-6 6-3; M Martoli (III) bit D Vacek (I

division: Taurion v Twerton H MOLANDS
MENERVA SPARTIAN SOUTH MOLANDS
LEAGUE: Promiser division: Cup Toddirigion v Bracho: Sparta: Brook House v
Hamed:
ENDSLEIGH MIDLAND COMBINATION:
Premiser division: Mor Ika Alvecturen
COURAGE COMBINED COUNTIES
LEAGUE: Premiser division: Fethern v
Walson Crescio. Walton Cosuals.
NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Mancheuter Gants v Chocter Jets (7.30). Worthing Bears v Newtastle Eagles (8.0): BOWLS: Suropean team championship (Guerranu) BOWLS: European Team
(Cuerrsey)
ICE HOCKEY: Benson and Hedges Cup:
Newcastle Cotras v Manchester Storm
(7:0) Notingham Panthers v Cardiff Digits
(7:30) Stough Jets v Basingstoke Bloom
(8:0) Neterborough Prates v Brachnel Bees
(7:20) SPEEDWAY. Elite League king's Lym v Prierborough (7.45). Poole v Covertry Newcastlo (6.30). League: Berwok, v

goai. managers. Michael Owen, Robbie Fowler and Karlheinz Riedle proved just too hot to from Choppy's back-pass, leaving Holland with little handle for Villa and provided a stark contrast to the man who moved from Antield to Stan Collymore has scored just one goal in nine games

Spain remained in contention for a place in the semifinals with a 4-2 victory over Belgium, but not before the Belgians had given them a scare by equalising at 2-2 ten minutes before the end. The Spaniards, however, scored twice in the last five minutes. the second goal coming from a penalty stroke.

when they play Australia today.

POSTTONS: Pool A: 1, India 7pts; 2. Australia 7; 3, Spem 6; 4, Holland 4, 8, Belgum 4; 6, Oubu 0, Pool B: 1, Germany Spis; 2, Paldetan B, 3, England 6, 4, Argentina 5; 5, Japan 3, 6, Egypt 2.

iluestions Wenger forced on to the defensive

By Oliver Holt, football correspondent

IN THE end, Arsène Wenger saw the funny side. The most contemplative and professorial of managers, he had spent the best part of an hour trying to account for the continuing disciplinary problems of his Arsenal team, trying to explain the paradox inherent in his propagation of the beautiful game and the strong-arm tactics of his players.

When it was suggested that the controversy caused by the build-up of cautions — Arsenal players have been shown the yellow card 18 times already this season - might mar the occasion of the end of his first year in charge at Highbury early next month, his face creased into a smile. "You could count the bookings and we will put the same number of candles on a cake for my anniversary," Wenger said.

The issue of Arsenal's ill-

discipline had been brought to the fore again in the aftermath of their stormy win over Chelsea at Stamford Bridge on Sunday. Frank Leboeuf, sent off after fouling Dennis Bergkamp, was reported yesterday to have said that Arsenal, who came bottom of

the fair play league last season with 82 bookings and five sendings-off, were the dirtiest side in English football.

Arsenal will go to the top of the FA Carling Premiership if

they beat West Ham United at Highbury tonight and Man-chester United lose to Chelsea at Old Trafford, but their success has been clouded by the threat of imminent suspension hanging over Bergkamp and Steve Bould, who have each incurred four bookings, and when the team returned from training yesterday, Wenger was forced into a wider defence of his football

"I enjoy it when we play

Ryan Giggs could return to the Manchester United starting line-up for the visit of Chelsea to Old Trafford tonight. "There won't be many changes, but my main decision is whether to use Giggs from the start or from the bench," Alex Ferguson, the United manager, said.

good football," Wenger said, but that means running quickly, jumping high and, of course, putting your foot in. I do not like players who do not get involved in the fight, I concede that, but I never tell anybody to kick an opponent.

"I know how I want my team to play and I know the criticism of them for being too dirty is not right. It does not

really concern me. I do not lose a moment of sleep over it. When you have 40,000 people in a stadium, you have to accept that some people will

not like the way you play.

It is part of being professional that you have to master yourself and your emotions, and we have to avoid getting yellow cards for dissent. But part of the problem is that, against Arsenal, everybody is up for it. If you play a physical match in football, you have to

"Of course, I would feel very bad if we finished bottom of the fair play league again this season. Perhaps we should analyse all the yellow cards we get and see whether we should change our game. I am really thinking of doing it because I cannot explain where we get all these yellow cards from.

People are even saying that Dennis is a dirty player now, but nobody could convince me of that. I think he is the best player in the Premiership at the moment and if I was not the manager here, I would pay money to watch him play. I think everyone accepts that we are trying to play good football."

That is as maybe, but the people who bake the cakes at Highbury will have to make one big enough for an awful lot of candles.

Given immune to greenhouse effect

Russell Kempson on

the goalkeeper who graduated from

market gardening to

St James' Park

live years ago, Shay Given could be found on the outskirts of Lifford. Co Donegal, helping out in the family market gardening business. No matter that he was a promising young footballer, attracting the atten-tion of several leading clubs across the water, there was work to be done. He would fall to his knees amid the acres of vegetables and begin

weeding.
Times have changed. Given. 21, no longer gathers potatoes with his four brothers and three sisters. He now contemplates richer pickings in the FA Carling Premiership and European Cup Champions' League as the Newcastle United goalkeeper and, if Ireland can negotiate a play-off, perhaps a place in the World Cup finals.

"Everything has happened so quickly," he said, "and it keeps getting better. I'm still pinching myself. It's a big season for me, my biggest yet, and I just hope I can stay in the first team and maybe win something for the fans."

Since joining Newcastle from Blackburn Rovers during the summer for £1.5 million - the fee, decided by a tribunal, was a snip - Given has confidently seen off the challenges of Shaka Hislop



Given is now established as the No I with Newcastle United and Ireland

and Pavel Smicek, the club's resident goalkeepers. Though relatively short for his trade, at 6ft 'zin, his self-assurance, positioning and agility more

than compensate.

Barcelona discovered as much when they launched a fierce, late rally in their 3-2 Champions' League defeat on Tyneside last week. West Ham United could find no way past him in Newcastle's . 1-0 victory on Saturday and Everton could suffer similar frustration at St James' Park

tonight. In Given's fledgeling career, he has kept 19 clean

sheets in 28 league matches. At 14, though, he was unde-ided about his sporting future. He played centre forward at school and also indulged in the dubious delights of Gaelic football. Seamus, his father, suggested that goalkeeping might be his forte and, at 15, he graduated into the local Donegal League with Lifford Celtic's men's side. The lads were grand,

they looked after me," he said.

"They made sure nothing happened to me." Given still looks as though

he needs looking after. His fresh-faced grin radiates innocence and he talks in a shy, warm Irish brogue. Manchester United gave him a trial but, again on the advice of his father, he left Celtic of Lifford for Celtic of Glasgow. The Irish connection - Liam Brady was manager, Packie Bonner the first-team goalkeeper - also tipped the balance away from Old Trafford.

"Packie was my hero." Given said. "I'd always looked up to

Though he progressed swiftly to the brink of the senior side, life at Cehic Park was initially freeful. "The first six months were the worst," he said. "Coming from the country and moving to a city the size of Glasgow was very strange. I missed home a lot.

"I sometimes felt like packing it in and going back to Ireland. I suppose all young lads go through it, but I gradually sorted myself out." He did eventually go home. for two months, when his contract ended and the new deal offered by Lou Macari, Bra-dy's successor, did not meet his approval. The three-year offer from Kenny Dalglish. Blackburn manager. proved more acceptable and he again set off across the Irish Sea.

From playing in Rovers' A team and reserves, Given was loaned out to gain experience. Twelve shut-outs in 17 appearances for Sunderland helped them to win the Nationwide League first division title last year, for which he collected a championship medal, yet on his return to Ewood Park he could find no way past the consistent Tim Flowers.

"I expected it at first but it then got very frustrating," he said. "I got offered another contract but I didn't want to sign. I just wanted to play." Times have changed. The family business is now a golf driving range and Given need no longer scrape his knees in the potato patch. The weeding

THE LEADING 100 ENTRIES IN THE TIMES INTERACTIVE TEAM CRICKET GAME



IN ASSOCIATION WITH



 $(\underline{\mathcal{Z}}_{\underline{\mathcal{A}}_{2,1},\mathcal{A}_{2,1}})^{-1} \stackrel{\mathrm{def}}{=} \underline{\mathcal{A}}_{2,2}^{-1} \stackrel{\mathrm{def}}{=} \underline{\mathcal{A}}_{2,2}^{-1}$

The scores in the first four columns cover the past week; the final column is the player's overall points

Orchid M & O (N Johns) Dave's Dependables (D Tatloo)..... prains learn (Howes)
The Twins (B Collinson)
Wansford House 3 (PR O'Brien)
Sams The Main 5 (G Sampson)
Hurists Cask Hander (R Jackson)
Colemans Balls (D Blackburn)
Bob's Barmy Army (R Anderson)
Burney Boys (BE Howes)
Paulines Stars (Ms P Howes)
Inn's Imperials (I Johnson)
Ian's Imperials (I Johnson)
Daves Docess (D Tattoo)
Kan's First X ((K Hannesh)

S Tearn (player's name)

Wells Fargo (BE Howes)

Olf Spriners In A (A Mitroy)

Porius (W Clarke)

Carolyn Is Fuzz (J Eaton)

Three Loba (P Johnson)

Sam's The Man 3 (S Sampson)

The Sunshnie Brand (J Snepherd)

Bacard Boys (M Woodley)

Finday Night X I (B MicFerran)

The Funratis (D Tattoo)

Impry Free X I (J Hunt) Teddy 2 (B Bare) Spike Thomas Eleve (TE Webb) Retirement Hero's (M Petiman) Basil's Bashers (S Moore)...

Deves Demons (D Taggoo) ... Harrow Blues - B (A Vasa) . . . Wolkering Wanderes (D Brunt) .
Woody's Wonders (DA Wood) .
Jen's 2nd X I (K Hannah) .
All Round Ability (W Burneti) .
J S W C 256 (J Swines) . Thunder Bunnies (DC Bales)

1380 1627



Johns shows off his ITC winner's cheque for £10,000

Hick helps winner over finishing line

By RICHARD HOBSON

NICHOLAS JOHNS arrived home from work on Saturday to discover that his beloved Glamorgan had won the Britannic Assurance county championship for the first time in 28 years, but had to wait another 48 hours before confirmation arrived that he is the winner of the £10,000 first prize in The Times's Interactive Team Cricket

(ITC) game.
Johns, 30, from Ogmore-by-Sea, near Bridgend, had led the table for the previous three weeks and was keeping a close check on the scoreboards. "I thought I might have won but at the same time I did not like to build up my hones in case my sums were wrong " he said. Work commitments mean

that he rarely finds the time to watch the professional game. As well as lecturing in English at Swansea College, he runs a part-time ground maintenance business, Mow And Go, after which he has named his team.

His selections reveal a shrewd insight into the firstclass scene and the requirements of ITC. All of his five 'specialist" batsmen can turn their arm over while three of his four bowlers could be considered all-rounders. Moreover, he has demonstrated that great selectorial knack of switching the right players

at the right time. Last week he was forced to choose between Graeme Hick and Alec Stewart in a final

reshuffle. "At this stage I knew that every decision might make the difference between winning or losing. I must have spent all night thinking about the last Category A batsman." He opted for Hick, and switched on Ceefax on Thursday night to see the Worcestershire batsman 253 not out.

CHAMPIONS

FINAL MOW AND GO XI

G A Hick (Worcestershire) T M Moody (Worcestershire) G R Haynes (Worcestershire) D A Leetherdale (Worcest A P Greyson (Essex) All-rounder

R D B Croft (Glamorgan) A J Blakev (Yorkshire)

A R Caddick (Somerse G D Rose (Somerset) B C Hollicake (Surrey)

☐ T. Croome of Leatherhead Surrey, is the final ITC weekly winner of the season, with his team, Kenilworth Kings. He wins a framed and signed print of Michael Atherton, . the England captain, a signed first edition of the Professional Cricketers' Association yearbook and £100.

INTERACTIVE TEAM CRICKET SCOREBOARD

Wicketkeepers (186-216)

total. The figures include all matches completed by September 21. Overseas players are shown in bold type. Rising Stars in italic. Batsmen (001-146) Category A J H Kallis (029) 0
14 V knight (029) 12
J S Larey (030) 91
M N Lairwell (031) 109
G D Lloyd (032) 0 Category B

W S Kendali (088) G J Nennis (089).... R A Kettleborough (090) D. A. Lifatherdale (MSA)
N. J. Lenham (094)
J. B. Lewes (095)
N. J. Llong (096)
M. A. Lynch (097)
M. A. Lynch (097)
G. J. Mactoy (099)
D. L. Mactoy (099) A K Reo (116) . . . J D Ratcette (117) . S P Titcherd (133). 0
M J Trainor (134) 0
M E Trescottrad (135)... 36
T A Treats (136) ... 210
M J Welker (137) ... 0
M A Wagh (138) ... 0
T C Watsh (139) ... 0
T C Watsh (140) ... 0
P E Welkings (141) 0
R M S Weston (142) ... 0 M G N Windows (145) A J Whota (146) All-rounders (147-185)

A N Aymes (186) . . . 38 J N Batty (187) 0 2007 269 2587 2262 1600 84 81 2193 2062 318 82 1989 0 2410 Category B Bowlers (217-347) Category A J A Atland (217) S J W Andrew (218) . . . M C J Batl (219) . . . R T Bates (220) J N B Bovil (224). M T Brimson (225)... S J E Brown (226)... A R Caddick (227)... A R C. Fraser (234) ... A F Gées (235). ... J M Gillespie (235). ... J M Gillespie (236). ... J M Gillespie (237). A J Harris (238). D W Headley (240). R K Illingworth (241). M C Illoit (242) ... J M C Illoit (242) ... J M C Illoit (242). ... J M J M C Illoit (243). ... J M J M C Illoit (245). ... J M J M G C Illoit (245). ... J M J M G C Illoit (250). D E Majoojun (250). D E Majoojun (250). P J M Jam (251).

each wicket and eatch and 40 points for each Five bonus points are awarded for a half-century ten bonus points are awarded for a century and for five wickets in an innings, and 20 bonus points are awarded for ten wickets in a match.

Twenty points are deducted for a duck. All points scored in Test matches are doubled.

Prepare for life's tricky deliveries.

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United Europe seek all-important bonding agent

Seve tries to create that loving feeling

t's a team thing, the Ryder Cup. They keep telling us how special and emotional it is, and I believe them. it took for the practising players to complete the 18 holes here yesterday, it became rather exhausting scanning the body language for that spe-cial Ryder Cup "I-love-you-Nick-(sniff)", 'I-love-you-too-Colin' stuff that we are being geared up to expect.

Some really fab golf would have been a nice substitute, while the New Man feelings bubble and stew in anticipation of the weekend - but

since this was the first practice day (with two more to go before compet-tion starts), fab golf was understand-ably being kept in reserve. It was an odd day, low-key but interesting, warm and windy and with the longest queue for a bottle of pop I've seen at a sporting event. Punters in tailored shorts happily roamed the place; all nationalities, it seems, favour the tailored short. Anyway, flushed with my own experience of playing here just a few weeks ago, I followed the third four-ball of Europeans round the course - Lee Westwood with lan Woosnam: Thomas Bjorn with Bernhard Langer — and sent out as many encouraging "I-love-you-Thomas", "I-love-you-Bernhard" vibes as I could

Seve keeps saying that the more experienced players should help the rookies, and I felt I should tell them all that I knew about Valderrama. For example, steer clear of the trees! Keep out of the rough! Putt uphill if possible. but remember some of the uphills are really cunningly deceptive downhills! All these points may seem self-evident, but on the other hand, perhaps they cannot be repeated too often.

For, let's face it, nobody's perfect. On the 2nd yesterday, against all conven-tional wisdom ("Shape your drive with a shade of draw," advises Valderrama: The First Ten Years), Bjorn's tee-shot found him slap-bang behind the cork tree in the middle of the fairway. Oops. On the third, Woosnam misjudged the spongy nature of the deathly rough (it has some of the qualities of antimatter), and found himself executing



At Valderrama

us do - the shot in which the ball is confidently struck, with full follow-through, yet just hops six inches, and stops. I love you, Ian. I just wish you wouldn't smoke, that's all. But I love you and I wish I'd warned you about the There is, of course,

a problem applying my own experience to those of the players because these blokes tend not to end up in the same positions on the course as the no-

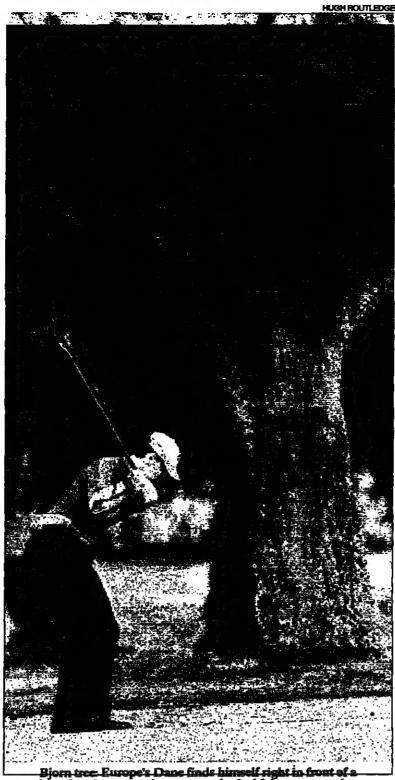
hope brigade. Those straight, strong 250-yard tee-shots cruelly deprive them of the chance to perform "snake-killer of the Serengeti" impersonations in the long grass. Of my chosen four-ball, only Ian Woosnam - in a calamitous outward nine - consistently made the effort to test the course to its limits, by obstinately missing all the fairways, like a child insisting on eating off the table next to the plate, or sitting on the floor when there's a chair.

Mercifully, things improved for him. But for a while, most of Woosnam's shots were greeted, not by the usual congratulatory Jawohl or ¡Olé! but by shricks from hastily bent heads.

aving previous knowledge of a famous course was a strange feeling. What hap-pened to all the bunkerrakes, then? Where did all these ropes toilets and Cartier nick-nacks come from? As the players made short work of the par three 6th, it was pleasant to reflect that on this lovely fairway I recently remembered the existence of the follow-through (an inspiration!), and improved my swing 100 per cent.

As they assaulted the big par five waterfall hole (the 4th) I remembered how - heeding the advice of a well-weathered Valderrama member - I simply skipped both 4 and 5, and didn't

Were these guys playing to win, or to learn, or to test tactics, or to bond? [was suprised, at the end, to learn they had been scoring their match, with Langer and Bjorn formally winning 2 and I. Many of the holes ended in a rather casual near-as-dammit putt



huge barrier - a cork tree - on the 2nd fairway yesterday

"That'll do"), that encouraged me to think that it wasn't too serious. But, of course, it was. At the same time as these chaps are finding their feet on the course, they are proving their worth to their leader, Seve, who will pick from them later in the week. "We don't play for Seve: we play for Europe." Costantino Rocca said yesterday. Which sounded convincing, except that it's not Europe that might leave you out of the foursames.

That famous Ryder Cup feeling is definitely on its way, but yesterday it was only the Little Touch of Seve

moments that kindled it. What a man. Suddenly his personal buggy would appear, emblazoned with "Capitan European", and a lovely vision of tanned, concerned Spanishness (with an earpiece) would descend to show his

troops the way.
Finding Woosnam in a dense thicket
at the 8th, Seve talked him through the shot, made gestures with the heel of his hand, stood back, and was then nearly brained by the hilarious whizz-crack ricochet that inevitably resulted. A lot of bonding went on in that moment,

show with daily performances

of their "Simply The Best"

display. Their act, a hilarious

guide to teaching yourself to

jump - featuring the great

horse, Milton - looks sure to

Billington's horse, It's Otto,

will be another. Last year, the

Dutch-bred gelding, on which

Billington came sixth in the

Olympic Games in Atlanta. missed Wembley to compete

at the richer Bremen Show, in

Germany. Billington arrives at Wembley £60,000 richer

after his second place in the grand prix in Calgary ten

days ago — and will ride It's

Other leading show-

be one of the highlights.

EQUESTRIANISM: WEMBLEY GALA FIGHTS FOR SURVIVAL AFTER HEAVY FINANCIAL LOSSES

Riders insist that the show must go on

By Jenny MacArthur

THIS is make or break time for the Horse of the Year Show, which gets under way with the national grade C showjumping championship at Wembley Arena today. Founded in 1949, the show which 20 years ago was watched by 50,000 in the arena and more than six million nightly on television - is fighting for survival. Loss of television coverage and key sponsors have taken their toll and three revamps in as many years have failed to halt the

The show might have ended in June - after Wembley

sacked the management firm, EPS (HOYS) Ltd — had not Grandstand Media, a firm already involved with the show, decided to take up the reins. Neither Grandstand Media nor Wembley, who took out a seven-year lease on the show from the British Show Jumping Association in 1993, underestimate the task. Paul Streeter, the director of Wembley Arena, said: "We obviously can't continue to run shows at a loss."

Mark Wein, a director of Grandstand Media, who has found sponsors for most of the events this week, though not the grand prix, is realistic in his aims. "We've set out to

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break even," he said. "The show costs El million to stage and, thanks to one or two individuals putting in a substantial amount, the show is going ahead. We accepted that, at this late stage, we could not make changes to the schedule or prize-money, but we have made other cost

savings." The show's future depends on rekindling the heady atmosphere of the Seventies and early Eighties, when riders and spectators alike thrilled to Wembley's special magic. In the words of David Broome, who first competed in 1951: "It was the grand finale of the summer season - an end-ofterm show which brought together all the fanatics of the horse world because there was something for everyone."

John Whitaker, who competes in his 26th Wembley show this week, against his

fellow Great Britain team members, Robert Smith, Geoff Billington and Michael Whitaker, said: "It would be terrible to lose it. It was watching the show on television as a boy which inspired me to go into the sport. It was like magic when I first rode

John Whitaker and Billington carry heavy burdens this week. In addition to competing, they are leading the

Otto in the grand prix on Sunday night and either the Daewoo championship or the Martin Collins leading showiumper on Saturday. jumpers competing for a share in the £122,000 prizemoney fund include Nick Skelton, Tim Stockdale and

James Fisher. With a full range of showing classes, and displays such as the Spillers Pony Club Mounted Games, the Musical Drive of the Heavy Horses and a dressage pas de deux, the organisers hope that the show's variety will prove to be a winning John Whitaker: dual role

WOME WATCHING

HANDSEL

HAND'SEL

(b) To give handsel to (a person). To present with, give, or offer, something auspicious at the commencement of the year or day, the beginning of an enterprise. To present with carness money or a luck-penny in auspication of an engagement or burgain. From the Old English handselen glossed "mancipatio", giving into the hands of another. "When I was at school, the ensteam of handselling the master on Handsel Monday still flourished in Scatland." JINN

(a) In Mohammedan demonology, an order of spirits lower than the angels, said to have the power of appearing in human and animal forms, and to exercise supernatural influence over men. From the Arabic collective plural for demons, spirits, angels. In Arabic the singular is jinni. In English commonly a jinn. "The species of Jinn is said to have been created some thou HICKSITE

(c) A member of a secoding body of American Quakers, founded by Elias Hicks in 1827, and holding Socinian doctrines. "A few spectators, mostly of the Hicksite division of Friends, were present, in broad brines and plain boancts."

(a) Grey-haired or hoary. A man with grey hair. Scottish from Old English hasu, haswe grey, ash-coloured. "Oversett with hasart hayr

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE 1 Qho! Rg8 (Black can try 1 ... Qxd4+ or 1 ... Qel+ but they don't disturb White's idea) 2 Qxh7+! Kxh7 3 Rh5 checkmate TELEVISION CHOICE

The penguins are coming!,

Animal People: A Penguin in the House

BBC1 7.00pm Peter Sallis, the narrator, gives a whimsical account of an "invasion" currently taking place in New Zealand. "Something very strange is happening in the suburbs of Wellington," he says darkly — but his mock-menace is contradicted by the sight of just what is "invading". The Little Blue Penguin is endearing and for the most part Wellingtonians are putting up with finding whole families nesting in their garages, on their rooftops, even under their sofas. Human beings have urbanised their once deserted beach habitats and the penguins are on the march, or rather scuttle dodging traffic and getting bandages and anti-stress medication in seaside sanctuaries.

Crime Beat: Drugs War RBC1. 8.00pm

Martyn Lewis, juggling a kilo of heroin, begins his new series in top form, placing the current position of law enforcers against drugs in sharp perspective. In the six instances chosen it would appear the drugs-busiers are winning. Scotland, says a Customs and Excise officer, "is loved by dealers for its present genefling" but there is leaves dealers for its remote coastline" but there is tense, murky footage of the customs officers cornering a delivery from Africa and the world-beating statistic of Scottish addicts injecting at the rate of ten thousand a day has dropped to 8.500. Sixty-five per cent of burglaries can be blamed on drug-takers, but in Plymouth Lewis finds a "fast track" scheme of rehabilitation rather than prison which seems to be working. In Nottinghamshire schoolchildren are advised by police before the drug culture can reach them and in London the opportunity. reach them and in London the once-notorious King's Cross area has been cleaned up.

Survival Special: Coddly Sharks ITV. 8.00pm

First there was Jaws, dramatising what we already believed about man-eating sharks. Then there was the backlash a splash of documentaries insisting that most sharks aren't interested in people and wouldn't dream of spoiling their holidays by eating them. Recently we saw a repeat of David Attenborough's brilliant documentary on the Great White — "an awesome killing machine"



PC Hewett and penguin (BBCl, 7.00pm)

- but far keener on elephant seals than human swimmers and surfers. This equally vivid film looks at the Great White off California and the looks at the Great White off California and the Tiger Shark off Hawaii and comes to much the same conclusions. But you will still shiver at the recollections of badly scarred surfers who survived attacks and the stomach-churming Tiger Shark raid on a colony of young albatross trying to take off from the water for the first time. Fat chance,

The Ebb Tide

ITV, 9.00pm and 10.40pm Robert Louis Stevenson may have inspired this turn-of-the-century saga of the high seas but he certainly didn't write dialogue like "in your dreams, sunshine", "from where I'm standing" and "you got a problem with that?" If you remember the story from your schooldays you will recall that it strikes a mystical chord: a plague ship, bodies still on her, drops anchor off a remote. Caribbean island where three derelict human beings — Chisholm (Robbie Cottrane, no less), Swanson (Steven Mackintosh) and Bunch (Chris Barnes) — agree to take her on to her destination, Australia, with a mystery cargo on board. When the men discover what the cargo is they get roaring the men discover what the cargo is they get roaring drunk, nearly kill each other and are eventually storm-tossed on to another tropical island deserted but for an apparent madman named Ellstrom (Nigel Terry). Ellstrom has pearls by the bucketful to bargain for what he wants. Elizabeth Cowley

The lively and informative arts programme goes

all philosophical on its listeners tonight. The cause of this departure is a book by Felipe Fernandez Armesto called Truth: A History and Guide for the

Perplexed. This sounds like an ambitious work, to say the least of it, but the book provides Humphrey Carpenter with a decent excuse to ask if mankind's

assumption that there is such a thing as undisputed truth has been dumped in modern times. Of course the question begs another, which is whether we ever really believed in absolute truth. The other main item unight, another way of

pursuing the truth, it could be said, concerns

political satirists, linked to a new exhibition of Hogarth drawings.

Peter Barnard

WORLD SERVICE

5.00cm Newsday 8.30 Europe Today 7.00 News 7.15 World Today 7.30 Sports International 8.00 News 8.15 Oit the Shell 8.30 Meroklan Live 9.00 News; News in German (646 only 9.10 Pause for Thought 9.15 Opera of the Week 10.00 News 10.05 World Business Report 10.15 Farming World 10.36 Science File 10.45 Sport 11.00 Newsdaek 11.30 One Plant 12.00 Newsdaek 12.30 Per plant 12.00 News in German (648 only) 1.05 World Business Report 1.15 Britain Today 1.30 Waveguide 2.00 News 1.20 News 3.05 Outlook 3.39 Meganitit 4.00 News 4.05 Sport 4.15 Performance 4.30 Everywornan; News in German (648 only) 5.00 Europe Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45 Britain Today 1.00 News 8.15 World Today 6.30 From Our Own Correspondent, News in German (648 only) 6.45 Sport 7.00 Newsdaek 7.30 The Works 8.00 News 8.91 Outlook 8.25 Pause for Thought 8.30 Multitrack X-Press 9.00 Newshour 10.00 News 10.05 World Business Report 10.15 Britain Today 10.30 On Screen 11.00 Newsdaek 11.30 World Today 11.45 Sport 12.00 Newsdaek 1.30 From Our Own Correspondent 1.45 Britain Today 2.00 Newsdaek 1.30 From Our Own Correspondent 1.45 Britain Today 2.00 Newsdaek 2.00 Newsdaek 1.30 From Our Own Correspondent 1.45 Britain Today 2.00 Newsdaek 1.30 From Our Own Correspondent 1.45 Britain Today 2.00 Newsdaek 1.30 From Our Own Correspondent 1.45 Britain Today 2.00 Newsdaek 1.30 From Our Own Correspondent 1.45 Britain Today 2.00 Newsdaek 1.30 From Our Own Correspondent 1.45 Britain Today 2.00 Newsdaek 1.30 From Our Own Correspondent 1.45 Britain Today 2.00 Newsdaek 1.30 From Our Own Correspondent 1.45 Britain Today 2.00 Newsdaek 1.30 From Our Own Correspondent 1.45 Britain Today 2.00 Newsdaek 1.30 From Our Own Correspondent 1.45 Britain Today 2.00 Newsdaek 1.30 From Our Own Correspondent 1.45 Britain Today 2.00 Newsdaek 1.30 From Our Own Correspondent 1.45 Britain Today 2.00 Newsdaek 1.30 From Our Own Correspondent 1.45 Britain Today 2.00 Newsdaek 1.30 From Our Own Correspondent 1.45 Britain Today 2.00 Newsdaek 1.30 From Our Own Correspondent 1.45 Britain Today 2.00 N

1.30 From Our Own Correspondent 1.45 Britain Today 2.00 Newsdesk 2.30 Omnibus 3.00 Newsday 3.30 Merician Books' 4.08 News 4.05 World Business Report 4.15 Sport 4.39

CLASSIC FM

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RADIO CHOICE

Night Waves

Radio 3, 10.45pm

A Time To Heal

Radio 2 has become adept over the past few years at theming programmes which set out to help people with a particular problem, without excluding those who may be interested in the subject but have no direct need of help at a that there are programmes at various times over the next three days. The main presenter for the season is Patricia Hodge, the actress, and the twin aims are to give the bereaved emotional support of the kind those closest to the deceased often lack and to offer the practical help which most people do not realise they need until a family death actually occurs. There is a free 24-hour helpline on 0800 022

RADIO 1

7,00mm Mark Radchife 9,00 Symon Mayo 12,00 Jo Whiley. Includes 12,30pm Newsbeat 2,00 Nicky Campbell 4,00 Mark Goodler 6,15 Newsbeat 6,30 Evening Session with Steve Lamacq 8,30 Trade Lipidate with Clare McDonnell 8,40 John Peel Includes Ive session tracks by Stereoleb 10,30 Mary Anze Hobbs 1,00mm Clive Warren 4,00 Chris Moyles

RADIO 2

A Time to Heal. See Choice
6.00em Sarah Kernedy 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 9.30 Ken
Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 1.30pm Debbie Thrower 3.00 Ed
Stewart 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 Nick Barraclough 9.00 Folk on 2
9.00 The Christy Moore Story. An Insight into the life of the Irlah
singer-songwriter. With contributions from Mary Coughten,
Mike Harding and David Lurny 9.30 Talking Cornedy. Janny
Edair talks about what makes her laugh (r) 10.00 Stave Wright
Picture Show 10.30 Richard Albreson 12.05am Steve Maddier
1.00 The CMA Awards Live from the Grand Ole Dony House in 1,00 The CMA Awards Live from the Grand Ole Opry House I Nestruße, Hosted by Vince Gill 4,00 Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

8.00mm The Breaklast Programme 9.00 The Magazins with Brian Hayes 12.00 Midday with Mair 2.00pm Ruscoe on Five 4.00 Nationwide with Julan Wortcker 7.00 News Extra with Valene Sanderson 7.35 Football Night Live commentary on the Premier Division clash between Kirnamock and Rengers. Plus, reports from the Premership and news from the second round of the Coca-Cola Cup 10.00 Littlejohn 11.00 News Extra 12.00 After Hours with Paul Hemott and Shela McClennon 2.00em Up All Night with Rhod Sharp 5.00 Moming Reports

TALK RADIO

6.30em Paul Ross and Carol McGiffen 9.00 Scott Chisholm 12.00 Lonaine Kelly 2.00pm Tommy Boyd 4.00 Drivetime with Peter Deeley 7.00 Anna Raebum 9.00 James Whale 1.00em lan Collins

4.00cm Alan Mann 9.00 Henry Kelly 1.00cm Listener Request Hour 2.00 Concerto Salleri (Flute and Oboe Concerto) 3.00 Jamie Crick, 7.00 Newsnight 7.30 Sociala Devienne (Flute Sonista No 2 in C) 8.00 Evening Concert. J.S. Bach (Toccara and Fugue in D minor); C P.E. Bach (Tric Sonista in B flatt); Grechamnov (Pario Trio No 1); Puccini (O Soave Fanculle, La Bachamilio (Pario Concerto for Time Streams and Controller). Boheme); Bruch (Concerto for Two Planos and Orchestra) 10,00 Michael Mappin 2,00am Concerto (r) 3,00 Merk Griffiths VIRGIN RADIO 7.50cm Russ and Jono's Breakfast Experience 10.00 Graham Dene 1.00pm Jeremy Clark 4.00 Nicky Home 7.00 Nick Abbot 10.00 Mark Forest 2.00cm Richard Porter

6.00em On Air, with Andrew McGregor. Includes Chopin (Polonaise in A flat, Eroca), Mendelssohn (Violin Concerto in E minor); Biber (Battalia a 10); Beethoven (Piano Sonata in F minor); Wagner (Ride of the Valkyries); Puccini (The Farewell, La Broofine).

9.00 Morning Collection, with Penny Gore. Bach (Brandenburg Concerto No 1 in F); Grieg (Lyric Preces); Marais (Sonnerie de Sænte Genevieve d Morit-du-Paris); Bizet (Au Fond du Temple Seint, Pearl Fishers); Komgold (Sulte: Much Ado about Nothino)

Pearl Fishers); Nornguiu (10.00 Musteria)

10.00 Musteral Encountiers, with Nicota HeywoodThomas, Includes Mendelssohn (String Symphony No 3 in E minor); Schumann (Gretchen vor dem Bild der Mater Dolorosa, Scene from Goethe's Faust); Duruffe (Four Motets); Debussy (Cello Soneta an D minor); Berodin (Symphony No 2 in B minor); Besthoven (Eroda Variations); Veroli (Tol Qui Sus le Néant des Grandeurs de ce Monde, Don Carlos)

Don Carlos)

12.00 Composer of the Week: Pizzetti

1.00pm Lunchtime Concert. Live from the Wigmore
Hall, London. Noriko Ogawa, peano. Rachmaninov
(Prefudes, Op 23: No 4 in D; No 5 in G minor; No
6 in E flat); Shukichi Mitsukuri (Night Pinapsody;
Saklure); Chopin (Piano Sonata No 3 in B minor)

2.00 Midweek Choice, with Susan Sharpe. Telephone
0171-765 4308 with your requests

4.00 Choral Evensong. Live from Wells Cathedral
5.00 in Ture, with Sean Rafferty. Includes Fairy Tales
by Janacek and A Late Lark by Delius

7.30 Performance on 3. David Lloyd, Irene Williamson, Ian Fisher and Daniel Edwards, horns, Robert Court, organ, Vale of Glamorgan Youth Choir, Estorian Philharmonic Chamber Choir, BBC National Orchestra of Weles under Toru Kaljuste Peters Vasks (Cantable for String Orchestra): Vetjo Tormis (The Bishop and the Pagan for Vocal Ensemble); Bronius Kutavicus (Last Pagan Rites for Chorus, Organ and Horns): Urmas Sisask (Deo Gracias, Gloria Patri); Avo Part (Te Deum)

8.56 Poetsertpt. To mark 100 years since the author's 8.56 Postscript. To mark 100 years since the author's birth, Ron Berglas reads Bern Burning by William Faulkner (3/5)

Fausaner (3/5)

9,15 Handel's Organ. Timothy Roberts plays the organ of St Lawrence Whitchurch, Little Stammore, an instrument once played by the composer Handel (Concerto in B flat); John Bennett (Voluntary in G mirror); Handel (Concerto in G mirror); Bennett (Voluntary in F) (r)

18,80 Ensemble. Penny Gore introduces a recital by Lowi Blake, cello, and Iwan Llewelyn-Jones, piano. Bach (Solo Cello Suite No 1 in G); Mendelssohn (Cello Sonsta No 1 in B flat)

18,45 Night Waves. See Choloce

11.30 Composer of the Week: Clementi (r)

12.30am Jazz Notes. Digby Fairweather introduces the Savarmah Jazz Band

1.00 Through the Night, with Donald Macleod. Includes 1.00 German Symphony Orchestra under Viacimir Ashkenacy With Elder Nebolsin, piano. Chopin (Piano Concerto No 1 in E minor); Komgold (Symphony No 1)

Komgold (Symphony No 1)

5.55am Shipping Forecast (LW) 6.00 News Brieting
6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30
Today 8.45 A Boy at the Hogarth Press. Jarnie
Glover reads Richard Kennedy's classic memoir
(3/5) 8.58 Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Midweek, with the Times columnist
Libby Purves and guests
10.00 News; The Windy Sea (FM). Tim Whewell
continues his exploration of the countries
bordering the Caspian Sea (2/4)
10.00 Daily Service (LW)
10.30 Woman's Hour, introduced by Jenni Murray
11.30 Gerdeners' Question Time, with Bob
Flowerdew, Nigel Colborn and Geoffrey Smith
Charled by Enc Robson (r)
12.00 News; You and Yours, with Mark Whittaker
12.25pm Eastern Mbr. Philip Alsha's comedy drams
starring Harmage Singh Kalra, Kathyri
Apanowicz and Annetts Ken (2/5) 12.55 Weather
1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke at the Liberal
Democrats' contenence and James Cox in London

1,00 The world at One, with Nick Clarke at the Liberal Democrats' conference and James Cox in London 1,40 The Archers (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast 2.00 News; The Peggers and the Creelers, by Catherine Czerkawska. With Sybil Wintrope, Sheila Donald and Josy Cooper (2/3) 2.45 News; Letters from Here and There. Deborah

Moggach recalls a recent trip to Goa (2/6)
3.00 Nows; The Alternoon Shift, with Daire Brehen
4.05 Kaleldoccope. Paul Gambacchi reviews the new
films of the week, including Contact, starring Jodle
Foster. Plus a look at rock stars turned actors

4.45 Short Story: Dying for Love, by Carol Shields.
Read by Bufty Davies
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather
6.00 Sto O'Clock News
6.30 Round Britain Quiz (r)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Rece the Facts, with John Waite and his learn of investigators (2/8) (r)

7.20 Face the Facts, with John Waite and his learn of investigators (2/8) (r)
7.45 The National Interest. MPs from opposing parties discuss the enormous problem of funding the NHS (2/2)
8.45 Singular Women. The third of four comedies by Stewart Permutt in which four different women give their views of the world (3/4)
9.00 Action and Reaction. Sue Blackmore chairs a scientific debate at the Old Royal Observatory in Greenwich (2/5)

9.30 Kaleidana (2/5)

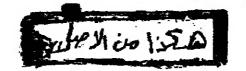
9.30 Kateldoscope (r) 9.59 Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Jeremy Harris
16.45 Book at Bedtime: Lottering with Intent. Anna
Massey reads Muriel Spark's comic novel (3/10)
11.00 On Baby Street. A comedy drama about fitnee
new mothers living in the same street, written by
Julie Bailco and Jenny Eclair. With Frances Barber
and Claire Skinner. (4/5)
11.30 The Cheese Shop Present. Sketches, songs
and jokes (r)

12.00 News 12.30am The Late Book: Light in August, by William Faulker, abridged by John Hartley and read by Ed Bishop (3/12)

12.48 Shipping Forecast (LW)

1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 86.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4. S. LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 693, 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 646; LW 198 (12.45-5.55em): Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemany Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamara.



Troubles, war or terrorism: take your pick

remember once, in the 1980s when the Saturday evening news invariably started with some post-match punch-up or other, reading a sociologically minded piece in one of the papers pointing out that however mean they looked and talked, the various groups of bootboys weren't entirely serious about their crippling and maiming. If you looked at the statistics, said the theorist, you'd see that hardly anyone was seriously injured let alone killed and that, given that gang warfare was taking place in most towns with a first division team most weekends, this must suggest some sort of restraint on the part of the lads.

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I admit to the same sort of thought, although less worthily, I'll grant you, a few minutes into the first of the excellent Provos (BBCI). This was, everyone kept reminding us. a war. The Provi-sional IRA said it was a war and

though they weren't treating it as a war, they understood in which way the IRA was.

And yet, in getting on for 30 years of warfare, and of warfare set in an age when mass destruction was easier and cheaper than ever before, 1,800 civilians, soldiers and IRA activists had been killed. I hesitate to say "only 1,800" because, among the innocent at least, each one of the number is a loss too great; but still, a war which kills 60 or so a year suggests something other than the total warfare which the IRA has always claimed was its aim.

is the IRA like the football bootboys, then, holding back when it comes to the big kick, or is the relatively low mortality rate indicative of something else? Ineptitude, for instance?

The fighting we see in Northern Ireland on the news looks like any other urban European fighting:

smoky morning-after haze over Londonderry hasn't been much different from that over bits of Bosnia. But while the news has always taken the government line that this is not to be considered in terms of warfare, Provos allowed the IRA its military conceit without necessarily accepting it. Behind the haze, though, were -

Peter Taylor's camera, many of them for the first time. hen the episode started, in the late 1960s, the IRA - the "official" IRA as it was soon to become - was a moribund hangover from the Troubles of 40 years earlier, a theorising civil rights movement loath to do anything to protect the London-

derry Roman Catholics against the

triumphalist Protestants in a time

when it was easy to see the city as

our own Mobile or Montgomery.

still are - the men speaking to



As far as the IRA was concerned. said the voiceover: "Protecting Catholics was a sectarian act." The IRA volunteers of the years to come were then small boys,

cheering the British soldiers marching in to do the job of protecting the Catholic majority. Most of them, said one, wanted to become soldiers themselves. Indeed, many of them did for when,

war-mongering Provisionals, it was the same boys who joined up. In the archive footage of the time

they are thin-faced, streetwise youths, all Bri-Nylon shirt under cheap fatigues, learning to strip down ancient small arms in anonymous kitchens. These were the days when television reporters could film such things and interview Provisional IRA leaders with no suggestion that these were harmless political spokesmen: we saw them answering questions about the self-proclaimed war in a way that, even since the dropping of the proscription against Sinn Fein interviews, we never see now.

Thirty years on, many of them spent in jail for bombing and shooting (and no IRA nostalgist appears without his prosecuted crimes listed in his on-screen caption), they are ruddy-faced, middle-aged and elderly men in patterned woollies and leisure suits,

asserting, with the conservatism of the middle-aged, that sectarian

violence isn't what it was. The reminiscences of the start of the fighting version of the modern IRA were of a strictly amateur outfit, picking up ancient weapons where they could, parading like some angry Dad's Army troop, equipped with Molotov cocktails and old Brownings and with the force of anti-British rage making up for the missing ordnance.

ven when they started casting around for proper weaponry there was something rag-tag and Sean O'Casey about it all, with weapons being smuggled in by the dozen from America on the QE2, and FB1 footage of republicans desperate to buy a weapon which could bring down a British helicopter. They prosecuted their war, and

they maimed and they killed, but as often as not they killed the

CHANNEL 4

9.00 Schools: Making Sense of Science (28705) 9.30 Good Health (T) (9578502) 9.45 Book Box (T) (9573057) 10.00 Stage Two Science (T) (7682182) 10.15 Rat-e-Tat-Tat (7672705) 10.30 The Jacobites (T) (8969569) 10.50 Stop, Look, Listen (T) (1786786) 11.00 First Edition IV (9092786) 11.15 The Mox (T)

11.30 Here's One | Made Eartier Herbed

12.30pm Baby Baby Swimming for children

2.00 Conference Report: The Leader's Speech Paddy Ashdown, MP, addresses

3.30 The Living Sea How technology is used

4.55 Ricki Lake The appeal of working-class

6.00 The Cosby Show When Rudy rafuses to

meet Rudy's teacher (r) (T) (521)

8.30 Roseanne Dariene and Roseanne are

nicer to her daughter (r) (T) (873)

and weather at 7.30 (437076)

comeuppance? (T) (4540)

M (6237)

learn the violin, preferring her triend Kim's cymbals, Cliff and Clair are summoned to

constantly arguing. Then Darlene has appendicitis and Roseanne decides to be

Stansfield's favourite music (951160)

fears to Max? And will Tinhead receive his

Etosha National Park in southwest Africa

5.30 Absolutely Animals (r) (T) (908)

the Liberal Democrats' annual con-

terence. With on-screen signing (10095)

to capture the wonders of the oceans (r) (T) (637)

chicken; salad of lamb; mixed beny tart

5.55am Sesame Street (94499)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (38397)

(9015637)

(1) (3892)

12.00 Sesame Street (48589

1.00 Light Lunch (r) (63366)

4.00 Fifteen-to-One (T) (144)

men (T) (2344142)

4.30 Countdown (T) (6612231)

time, their great orators said the wrong thing, their bombs took out their own people.

The series is right to start with the arrival of the troops in 1969, for other analyses of the Irish situation have suffered by being stretched to cover everything from the Famine onwards. But the missing chronological context both points up the fact that this is a war fought in ancient history (not to say mythology) and that this is as comprehensible a conflict to those of us outside it as is that of the Tutsis and the Hutus in Burundi.

There will be complaints, I'm certain, that in not devoting his time to demonising the terrorists, Taylor is in some way giving them support. He isn't. But at a time when the Government is talking to those who talk to the IRA, he is giving the rest of us a chance to understand what the fighting has been about for all these years.

BBC1 6.00am Business Breakfast (77231) 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (98716163) 9.05 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (2654960)

9.30 Style Challenge The expens give four mounted policewomen a complete 6.55 Kilroy (T) (5441521) 10.35 Change That (1531347)

11.00 News (f) and weather (4803415) 11.05 Liberal Democrat Party Confer Featuring a debate on health policies

1.00pm News (T) and weather (82076) 1.30 Regional News (T) (17451415) 1.40 The Weather Show (87316328) 1.45 Neighbours (T) (77194908) 2.10 Quincy (r) (2994417)

3.00 Through the Keyhole (7873) 3.30 Playdays (8120163) 3.50 ChuckleVision (8140927) 4.10 Get Your Own Back (4634453) 4.35 Out of Tune (6628892) 5.00 Newsround (T) (9030328) 5.10 Blue Peter (T) (5929724)

5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (885705) 6.00 News (T) and weather (811) 6.30 Regional News (T) (163)

7.00 Peter Sallis narrates a look at the world of New Zealand's penguins, allowing viewers to savesdrop as they sneak into local discos, wake neighbours with their noise and drive people-bonkers with their awful smell (T) (2182)

7.30 Tomorrow's World Philippa Forrester inspects the most technologically advanced gun yet invented, capable of firing more than a million rounds of ammunition a minute. Jez Nelson reports smoke and act as a fire alarm (1) (347) 8.00 Crime Beat: Drugs War Martyn Lawis presents real-life

police action (T) (8502) 8.30 The National Lettery Live Carol Smille presents the draw, singer Deni Hines

8.45 Points of View (T)(178502) 8.55 Party Political Broadcast by the

9.00 News (T) and weather (6989) 9.29 National Lottery Update (508908) 9.30 The X Files: Telliko Scully is her usual scaptical self when Mulder blames a mythical African creature for the deaths of

several black men whose skin has been drained of pigment (T) (815908) 10.15 Chalk Education officer Archie Munt visits the school to investigate a financial

megularity (T) (330076) 10:45 Match of the Day: Manchester United v Chelsea Desmond Lynam presents highlights of tonight's FA Premiership encounter between the reigning champions and lest season's FA Cup winners (T) (3536279)

11.50 Assassination (1987) Charles Bronson stars as a veteran sacret service agent services at the service agent the service agent president's wife from would-be assassins. Directed by Peter Hunt

1.15am Weather (4983090)

VideoPhus+ and the Video PhusCodes VideoPris+ and the video Programme listing are Video PlusCode* numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorderinstantly with a VideoPlus+** handsat. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. Videoplus+ (**), Pluscode (**) and Video Programme are trademarks of Gernstar Development Ltd.

F BBC2 Y

6.00am Open University: Database Developments (4431163) 6.25 Being Objective (4450298) 6.50 The Emergence of Greek Mathematics

7.15 See Hear Breakfast News (T and signing) (4398618)

7.30 The Adventures of Skippy (6489095) 7.55 The Really Wild Show (r) (T) (5484873) 8.20 Penny Crayon (7299219) 8.25 Tales of Aesop (7141927) 8.35 Teletubbies (1066163) 9.00 Cartoon (4896811)

9.10 What? Where? When? Why? (4883347) 9.25 English Express (3859453) 9.45 Words and Pictures (9588989) 10.00 eletubbies (74569) 10.30 Numbertime (3790892) 10.45 Cats' Eyes (3795347) 11.00 Around Scotland (2036057) 11.20 The Geography Programme (9001434) 11.40 Revista (7309182) 11.55 Quinza Minutes Plus (8023076) 12.10pm (sabel (1282908)

12.30 Working Lunch (40415) 1.00 Noddy (r) 1.10 The Craft Hour (1880304) 2.10 News (1) (32843786)

2.15 Liberal Democrat Party Conference Paddy Ashdown addresses the conference (955279)

3.55 News (T) and weather (6999892) 4.00 Ready, Steady, Cook Cookery (796) 4.30 Going, Going, Gone (6627183) 4.55 Esther: servants in the 1990s (r) (5477694) 5.30 Today's the Day (540) 6.00 Star Trek: The Next Generation (r) (T) (419250)

6.45 Conference Talk (641182)



Actress Juliet Stevenson (7.30pm)

7.30 Conjuring Shakespeare investigation into Shakespeare's gender bias with comment from Juliet Stevenson and Fiona Shaw (T) (989)

8.00 University Challenge Exeter University Robinson College, Cambridge (T) (6144) 8.30 The Antiques Show An aristocratic car boot sale, antique textiles, the rising value of old jeans and berometers (T) (5279) 9.00 The Nazis: A Warning from History (3/6) What led the Fuhrer into conflict with

Great Britain? (T) (532637) 9.50 Behind the Lines Last in series (T)

10.00 Party Political Broadcast by Labour Party (T) (14502)

10.35 Newsnight (T) (902328) 11.20 Over the Edge (763521)

11.50 The X Philes (527076) 12.00 Weather 12.05am Duckman (3311309)

12.30 Learning Zone: Shaping Up (98090) 1.00 Projecting Visions (39534) 1.30 What You Never Knew About Sex (18903) 2.00 Teaching Today (95212) 4.00 Dyslexia (55854) 5.00 Heart Health (69651) 5.30 A Shadow from the Past

.HTV

6.00am GMTV (7204279) 9.25 Supermarket Sweep (2650144) 9.55 Regional News (1117705)

10.00 The Time, the Place (61095) 10.30 This Morning (18925908) 12.20pm Regional News (6362521)

12.30 News (1) and weather (9550786) 12.55 Shortland Street (9568705) 1.25 Horns and Away (T) (58292386) 1.50 Remote Control Cooking (T) (77100569) 2.20 Vanessa (T) (75410250) 2.50 The Natural

Health Show (6879279) 3.20 News (T) (4899811) 3.25 Regional News (4898182)

3.30 Tots TV (r) (1555328) 3.40 The Parkies (7381960) 3.50 The New Adventures of Winnie the Pooh (r) (6974231) 4.20 Extreme Ghostbusters (T) (4625705) 4.45 It's a Myslery (T) (6619144)

5.10 WALES: Primetime Dlary with Mal Pope (2467960)5.10 Yan Can Cook: The Wonders of the World (2467960)

5.40 News (T) and weather (831811) 6.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (899618) 6.25 HTV Weather (138144) 6.30 HTV News (T) (231)

7.00 Emmerdale Alex turns up at James's birthday party bearing gifts (T) (7250) 7.30 Coronation Street The police pay Saily a visit (T) (415)

8.00 Change Survival Special: Cuddity Sharks Exploring the idea that sharks may mistake people for seals or turtles (T) includes the Lottery result



Robbie Coltrane at sea (9.00pm)

9.00 The Ebb Tide Dramatic tale of three escapers who brave the South Seas on a plague-inlested ship. With Robble Coltrane, Steven Mackintosh and Chris Barnes. Continues after the News (T) (8231)

10.00 News at Ten (T), Lottery result and 10.30 Regional News (T) (310453)

10.40 The Ebb Tide Concluded (T) (478786) 11.40 WALES: Alice The changing cultural

face of Europe (T) (337250) 11.40 Hunter: Double Exposure (r) (337250) 12.40am Collins and Maconle's Movie Club (3712835)

1.10 Real Stories of the Highway Patrol 1.35 The Swiss Conspiracy (1975) with David Janssen as a private eye investigating the blackmailing of customers at a Swiss bank. Directed by Jack Arnold (206651)

3.10 Jones and Jury (r) (44190748) 3.30 F1: Austrian Grand Prix (r) (T) (2017903) 4.25 Sound Bites (64694729) 4.30 The Time, the Place (r) (87545) 5.00 Coronation Street (r) (T) (63477) 5.30 News (49212) SAJELLITE AND CABLE

CENTRAL As HTV West except:

12.55pm-1.25 A Country Practice (9588705) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (2467960) 6.25-7.00 Central News (933415)

starring Jane Fonda, Gregory Peck and Jimmy Smits. Directed by Luis Puenzo (44436892)

2.50 in Focus (2686583) 3.35 Central Jobfinder '97 (240477)

WESTCOUNTRY

12.20pm-12.30 Illuminations (6362521) 12.55 Home and Away (4290618) 1.20-1.50 Emmerdale (78592917)

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except: 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (2467960)

ANGLIA As HTV West except: 12.19pm Angila Air Watch (6358328) 12.55-1.25 A Country Practice (9568705) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (2467960) 6.23 Anglia Weather (139873)

6.25-7.00 Angila News (933415) 10.29 Anglia Air Watch (726637) 11.40 in Suspicious Circu (337250)Starts: 7.00em The Big Breekfast (38397)

9.00 Schools (326786)

4.00 Fifteen-to-One (144) 5.00 5 Pump (5838182) 5.15 Ptell (9035873)

6.00 Newyddion (268724) 6.10 Heno (424162) 7.00 Pobol y Cwm (536057) 7.25 Fiermio (480322)

8.00 Gwaith Cartrel (4540) 8.30 Newyddion (6237) 9.00 Equinox (6873) 10.00 Brookside (242298)

12.20am Under the Moon (44893274) 4.30 Board Stupid (85187) 5.00-5.30 Screaming Reels (61019)

11.40 Film: Old Gringo (1989). A drama, set at the time of the Mexican Revolution,

1.55am The Elvis Auction (2305496)

5.20 Asian Eye (1017274)

As HTV West except:

5.10-5.40 Home and Away (2467960) 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (45960)

6.00 Maridian Tonight (279) 6.30-7.00 The Village (231) 11.40 Highlander (337250) 5.00am Freescreen (63477)

7.00 Channel 4 News (1) Includes headlines 7.50 Music of the Millennium Lisa 8.00 Brookside Can Susannah admit her real 8.30 Out of Africa: The Weaver's Tale A look at weever birds in the arid thorn scrub of

SIC 11.30 Here's One I Made Earlier (3892) 12.00 Sesame Street (48569) 12.30cm Baby Baby (68811) 1.00 Slot Meithrin (83731989)

1.15 Tic Toc (83729144) 1.30 The Legend of White Fang (67182) 2.00 Conference Report: The Leader's Speech (10095) 3.30 The Living Sea (637)

4.30 Stones of the Rai (328) 5.30 Countdown (908)

10.35 Rehylon 5 (499892) 11.30 Cybili (191386) 11.55 Cybill (941683)

Willem Hurt stars (9.00pm)

9.00 Broadcast News (1987) William Hurt, Holly Hunter, Albert Brooks and Jack Nicholson star in this amusing tale of fear. rivalry and love in the Washington office of a network television station. Directed by James L. Brooks (T) (40392279) 11.25 Babylon 5 Sheridan clashes with Garibaldi (T) (728453)

12.20em Under the Moon Sports magazine presented by Danny Kelly (44893274) 4.30 Board Stupid Snowboarding (r) (85187) 5.00 Screaming Reels Angling (r) (T) (61019) 5.30 Film and Video Showcase Young directors' new work (7464038)

CHANNELS, A

CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE Channel 5 is now broadcasting on transponder No 63 on the Astra Satellite. Viewers with a Videocrypt decoder will be able to receive the channel free of charge. Frequencies for transponder No 63 are picture: 10.92075 GHz; sound: 7.02 and 7.20 MHz

6.00am 5 News Early (7006076) 7.30 USA High (r) (5260057)

8.00 Havakazoo (7811219) 8.30 WideWorld Documentary series on the business world (11/15) (2766160) 9.00 Espresso (7548521) 10.00 Exclusive (r)

(6729076) 10.30 Treasure Islands The Seychelles Island of Cousin, a bird sanctuary (r) (T)

11.00 Leeza Chat show (1166182) 11.50 Double Espresso (69495298) 12.00 The Bold and the Beautiful (T)

12.30pm Family Attairs (r) (T) (9675076) 1.00 5 News Update (85749298) 1.05 Sunset Beach (T) (8341250) 2.00 5's Company (8312811)

3.30 Stromboll (1950, b/w) with Bergman and Mario Vitale. A drama about a Second World War refuges who marries a fisherman in order to escape internment. Directed by Roberto Rossellini (7000892)

5.30 Move on Up (1) (9891453) 6,00 100 Per Cent (9898366) 6.30 Family Atfairs Elsa reveals all about Bill



Model Cindy Crawford (7.00pm)

7.00 Exclusive in a feature on celebrity addictions, Cindy Crawford reveals he love of golf (8861989)

7.30 Dragon's Tale: Elephent's Eye View A visit to Nepat's Chitawan Netional Park, (9878502)

8.00 Instant Gardens William Van Hage and his learn complete their makeover of a Bristol garden (8870637) 8.30 5 News (T) (8859144)

9.00 My Son is innocent (1996) with Marliu Henner, Nick Stahl and Andrew
Robinson. A countroom drama about a when her son is talsely accused of rape. Lamy Elikan directs (96246927)

10,50 The Jack Docherty Show (9573144) 11.30 Prisoner: Cell Block H (7309960) 12.25am Live and Dangerous with Simon.
Potter and Todd Macklin Includes live baseball from the US Major League

4.35 The Streets of San Francisco Police drama series (T) (6394922) 5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (7503458)

• For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see Vision, published on Saturday

SKY 1 SKY 1

5.00em Morning Glory (740637) 9.00 Regis and hattris Lee (47502) 10.00 Another World (46286) 11.00 Days of Our Lives (26434) 12.00 The Oprah Whitey Show (82892) 1.00pm Geratio (8340) 2.00 Selfy Jessy Rephael (82502) 3.00 Jerny Jones (18366) 4.00 The Oprah Wartey Show (97873) 5.00 Star Trek: The Next Generation (6927) 6.00 Real TV (6989) 6.30 Marned with Châterie (3569) 7.00 The Simpsons (4328) 7.30 Mr.4*S*H (2453) 8.00 Seventh Heaven (40453) 9.00 Pacific Palsades (37399) 10.00 LA P.D. (30076) 11.00 Star Trok: The Next Generation (47927) 12.00 Late Show (34535) 1.00em SKY NEWS

Worldwide news coverage, with bulletins on the hour, 24 hours a day, seven days a week SKY MOVIES

SKY MOVIES

6.00am Rad (1986) (80550366) 7.45 A Flea in Her Ear (1986) (315347) 8.45 A Flea in Her Ear (1986) (315347) 8.45 A Flea in Her Ear (1986) (315347) 8.45 While You Were Steeping (1985) (40376) 1.45pm Licence to Drive (1988) (320095) 3.15 Rad (1986) (44477811) 5.00 Hercules (1983) (69076) 7.00 While You Ware Steeping (1995) (38911) 9.00 Ware Steeping (1995) (38911) 9.00 Murder in the First (1995) (38911) 9.00 Dreem Master: The Erotic Invader (1995) (190290) 12.35an Cracy Horse (1995) (190450) 2.15 Runaway Daughters (1994) (9463125) 3.40 The Late Shift (1995) (5995800) THE MOVIE CHANNEL

(1972) (770632) 5.05 Black Tulip (1988)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

TNT 9.00pm Ben-Hur (1959) (95176279) 12.20em Terzen the Ape Man (1952) (96377187) 2.30 Mogembo (1953) (33725670) 5.00 Close SKY SPORTS 1

SKY SPORTS 1

7.00am Sports Centre (76453) 7.30 Wresting: Live Wise (89144) 8.30 Sports Centre (89454) 9.00 Racing News (70705) 9.30 Aeroblas Cz Style (16095) 10.00 The Footballers' Football Show (51144) 11.00 Pro Beach Societ (71908) 12.00 Aeroblas Cz Style (80569) 12.30pm Golf-Montgomerie's Ryder Cup Moments (32502) 2.00 Tarran Estra (4724) 2.30 The Footballers' Football Show (24908) 3.30 Pro Beach Societ (33889) 4.30 Windsurfing (9908) 5.00 Wrestfing Shogun Chellerge (7811) 6.00 Sports Centre (4858) 6.30 Golf-Ryder Cup (4453) 7.00 The Pavilion End (79989) 8.00 World of Super League (82453) 10.00 Sports Centre (91296) 10.30 Golf, Ryder Cup (77618) 11.00 Futbol Mundel (43076) 11.30 The Pavilion End (40873) 12.30am Sports Centre (90996) 1.00 World of Super League (73477) 3.00 Sports Centre (43748) 3.30 Close
SKY SPORTS 2

SKY SPORTS 2

SKY SPORTS 2

7.00am Aerobos Or Sryle (6790453) 7.30
Sports Centre (6719960) 8.00 Racing News
(5719434) 8.30 The Weekend Fisherman
(5718705) 9.00 The Ultimate Fishing Show
(5709057) 9.30 Rebet Sports (1184802)
10.30 Windsurfing (5738569) 11.00
Showparpang (673908) 12.00 Tennis
Grand Stam Cup — Live (6510908) 6.00pm
Rebet Sports (2364148) 7.00 Sports Centre
(9094434) 7.30 Footbell Coca-Cola Cup —
Live (8282231) 10.00 Tennis Grand Stam
Cup (7743989) 12.00 Coca-Cola Cup
(2391651) 1.30am Rebet Sports (1668864)
2.30 Close THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00em Second Honeymoon (1937)
(5372618) 7.20 The Sean Princess
(1994) (5613250) 8.50 The Pebble and
the Penguin (1995) (1251250) 10.05
Sirocco (1951) (78958540) 12.00 Hart 5
Sirocco (1951) (78958540) 12.00 Hart 10.05
Hart Socrets of the Hart (1995) (94347)
2.00pm The War Lover (1982) (52396)
4.00 Time Warrior Journey in the Magic
Covern (1995) (9873) 6.00 Hart to Hart
Secrets of the Hart (1995) (2434) 8.00
Waterworld (1995) (25458057) 10.15
Original Gangatus (1996) (139076) 12.00
Mixed Nuto (1994) (805125) 1.40am Last
Chasco (1995) (115835) 3.15 Rege

SKY SPORTS 3

12.00pm Wresting Shotgun Challenge 12.96937241 1.00 Fishing Texas (55104618) 1.30 Gone Fishing (29673960) 2.00 Golden Groves (71145365) 3.00 Golden Olympes (42565796) 3.30 Rupby Umon: European Cup (61588182) 5.30 Pool: 1996 St Andrews Cup (84133960) 6.30 Salling BT (9bbal Challenge (31095095) 7.00 Fishing Tales (57410647) 7.30 American Outdoors (31091279) 8.00 Sport USA (50717279) 9.30 Beach Volleybal (29694453) 10.00 Golden Age of Motor Racing (37754811) 11.00 Great Moments in Sport (59739095) EUROSPORT 7.30am Football (19796) 9.00 Tenns

7.30am Football (19796) 9.00 Terms (31892) 11.00 Kerting (66076) 12.00 Kick (19786) 1.00pen Water String (60292) 1.30 Fieemde (93750) 2.00 Live Cycling (64-53) 3.30 Mountain Bise (28057) 4.30 Motors (76540) 8.00 Four-Wheels Drive (5569) 8.00 Bourg (27095) 7.30 Football (57724) 9.30 Football (80028) 11.00 (Vornen's Gold (49231) 12.30km Close UK GOLD

7.00am Rentagnost (4328811) 7.35 Neighbours (9770569) 8.00 Crossroads (9241182) 8.25 EastEnders (3768811) 9.00 The Bid (6801298) 9.30 Howards Way (4151347) 10.00 In Loving Memory (1531521) 10.30 The Sufficiants (6831182) 11.00 Softy, Softy (53012892) 12.05pm Crossroads (72170279) 12.30 Neighbours (4155163) 1.00 EastEnders (8467845) 1.35 2Point4 Children (6324182) 2.20 Room at the Bottom (45642095) 2.50 Are You Being Served (266881) 3.30 The Sti (4551231) 4.00 Cassally (11588705) 5.05 EastEnders (765268) 5.40 Boo's Full House (6320765) 6.20 The Two Romes (4042637, 7.20 Dr. 6.20 The Two Romaes (4012637) 7.20 Or Who (9257132) 7.50 Home to Roost (3381809) 8.20 On the Up (8062163) 9.00 (3381809) 820 on the Up (8024181) 840 The Bill (2057198) 9.30 The Chef (5568163) 10.35 Spons Arorak (2453163) 11.05 The New Statesman (2594714) 11.40 Marm Vice (5641862) 12.30em FILM: The Substitute Wife (1994) 7089513) 2.15 GRANADA PLUS

6.00am Et (7367714) 6.36 Beadle's About

6,004/196) 7,00 Colonator St (9297231) 7,30 Families .8216366/ 8,00 Surprise Surprise (5061500) 9,00 Losters Down-

Surprise (7001501) 9,00 Ctd-873 Control 51975 (1082322) 10,00 Miss on Impossible (8205250) 11,00 Tra Sancoaggers

(822786) 12.00 Coronation St (528898) 12.30pcs Familiae (182908) 1.00 Bind Date (1817163) 2.00 Upstars, Downsters (6569095) 3.00 Bead's s About (8815540) 3.00 Surgocal Speri (7713540) 4.00 Mission impossible (2106818) 5.00 The Sandbaggers (8806882) 6.00 Familiae (7719724) 6.30 Coronauon St (7700076) 7.00 Bind Date (7579960) 8.00 Mission impossible (7591908) 9.00 Coronauon St (8161322) 9.30 The Cornellars (1809144) 10.00 Prime Suspect III (7574231) 11.00 Close

DISNEY CHANNEL

6.00am Dumbo (5629a) 6.30 Lamb Chop (44989) 7.00 Cho 'n' Dale (75347) 7.30 Ouack Pack (87182) 8.00 Dinesaus (13434) 8.30 Bonkers (12705) 9.00 Gumma Rous (15437) 9.30 Gumma (1343) 8.30 Borkets (12705) 9.00 Gummi Bears (61647) 9.30 Grounding Marsh (49347) 10.00 Sesame Street (83366) 11.00 Hunry Pot (5901540) 11.15 Rose and Jim (4143502) 11.40 Sing Me a Story (591663) 12.00 Big Garage (7588182) 12.45pm Winne the Pools (25801960) 1.00 Serama Street (49618) 2.00 Amazing Ammals (4366) 2.30 Care Beers (9786) 3.00 Tale Spin (3873) 3.30 Goof Troop 3.00 Tale Spin (3873) 3.30 Gool Troop (4231) 4.00 Timon and Pumbea (3366) 4.30 Aladdin (2250) 5.00 Gargoyles (5618) 5.30 Dinasaurs (3502) 6.00 Blossom (6665) 6.30



Boy Meets World (4095) 7.00 Home Improvement (8182) 7.30 The Wonder Years (6809) 8.00 FILM: The Bareteot Executive (1995) (26569) 9.30 Dave's World (63927) 10.00 Close FOX KIDS NETWORK

8.00em Delty (6341365) 5.30 Billy the Cal 8.00em Delty (6341385) 6.30 Bitly the Cal (2372298) 7.00 Pirocotho (4920927) 7.30 Power Rengers Zeo (4909434) 8.00 Beeteborgs (6511279) 8.30 Mesked Rober (6502350) 9.00 The Magic Box (6594502) 9.30 Dudley the Dragon (6519279) 10.00 Inspector Gadget (237255) 10.30 Samural Pizza Cafs (650786) 11.00 Sweet Valley High (4918182) 12.00 Ace Venture (6514366) 12.30pm Casper (6813095) 1.00 The Tick (4928296) 1.30 Iron Man (6812966) 2.00 Fentaster Four (6084618) 2.30 Power Rengers Zeo (1517811) 3.00 Beetleborgs (9096153) 3.30 Mesked Rider (1596236) 4.00 Ace Venture (1508163) 4.30 Ace Venture (1508163) 4.30 Power Rengers Zeo (1517811) 3.00 (1596326) 4.00 Ace Ventura (1508163) 4.30 Casper (1504347) 5.00 The Tick (9008298) 5.30 X Men (1528927) 6.00 Spiderman (1518540) 6.30 Sweet Valley High (1518540) **6.30** 5: (1509892) **7.00** Close

8.00am Happily Ever Alter (29144) 6.30 Bobby's World (40163) 7.00 Spirou (71521)

7.30 Dennis the Menaco (67328) 8.00 Baiman (26908) 8.30 The Bots Master (25279) 9.00 Ari Amack (61601) 9.30 Earjineorm Jim (45621) 10.00 Grevedsle High (31415) 10.30 Flash Gordon (61655) 11.00 Creecy Crawlers (97811) 11.30 The High (31415) 10.30 Fisish Cordon (61655) 11.00 Creepy Crawlers (97811) 11.30 The New Adventures of Gigantor (98540) 12.00 Grave-dale High (29085) 12.30 pas The Bota Master (56637) 1.00 Bastman (70982) 1.30 Eek the Cat (55906) 2.30 Creepy Crawlers (7340) 2.30 Fisish Gordon (5960) 3.30 Earthworm Jim (7705) 4.00 Dennis the Menace (9540) 4.30 Art Ahack (5724) 5.00 Close CARTOON NETWORK All your lavourse cartoons broadcast from 5.00am to 9.00pm, seven days a week.

8.00em Attack, of the Käler Tornatoes (14298) 6.30 Asahni Real Monsters (13637) 7.00 Hey Amoldt (74095) 7.30 Rugrats (53502) 8.00 Doug (87724) 8.30 Country Mouse and City Mouse (87095) 9.00 CBBC (76347) 9.30 CBBC (44095) 10.30 Baber (87231) 11.00 Magic School Bus (59637) 11.30 Benarius in Pyjamas (50396) 12.00 Paddington Bear/the Wombles/Victor and Maria/Chscar and Friende/Will the W (81811) 12.30pm Portland Bull/Astro Farm/Trap Door/Plesmo (18453) 1.00 Dr Seuss (73365) 1.30 Little Bear Stones (17724) 2.00 Jim Henson's Aramal Show (2369) 2.30 CBBC (1873) 3.30 Asahthi Real Monsters/Doug (2271) 4.00 Hey Amoldti (1365) 4.30 Rugrats (9750) 5.00 Sester Sister (3618) 5.30 Srster Sister (1502) 6.00 Sebrina (8415) 6.30 kablami (2095) 7.00 Close TROUBLE

NICKELODEON

TROUBLE 12.00pm Swan's Crossing (6876502) 12.30 Ready or Not (4140231) 1.00 Madison (4344106) 1.30 Sweet Valley (4149502) 2.00 Seved by the Bell (6241989) (4149502) 2.00 Saved by the Bell (8241949) 2.30 Swen's Crossing (4874182) 3.00 Ready or Not (8253724) 3.30 Blast (489827) 4.00 Saved by the Bell (4865434) 4.30 USa High (4861618) 5.00 Hangtime (826559) 5.30 Sweet Valley (4866295) 6.00 Blast (4875811) 6.30 Madison (4866295) 5.30 Sweet Valley (4866295) (4866163) 7.00 Hangtime (6245705) 7.30 USa High (4862347) 8.00 Close

BRAVO 8.00mm The Prisoner (1342960) 9.00 The Burning Zone (1362724) 10,00 Tour of Duty (1365811) 11,00 FILM: Spookles (1987) (6421366) 1,00am The Burning Zone

(7198545) 2.00 Tour of Duny (9972835) 2.00 FILM: The Music of Chenon (1993) (1451922) 5.00 Planet of the Apes (1228106)

PARAMOUNT COMEDY 7.00pm Grace Under Fire (6182) 7.30 Roseanne (8279) 8.00 Ellen (2502) 8.30 Rosanne (8279) 8.00 Elen (2502) 8.30 Cybel (1637) 9.00 Cheer (39673) 9.30 Taxi (3921) 9.10 Cheer (39673) 9.30 Taxi (43219) 10.00 Fresier (82540) 10.30 Alexes Sayle (86960) 11.00 Comedy Store (41618) 11.30 Nightsland (23673) 12.00 Soap (33877) 12.30em Bob (86038) 1.00 E UK (54854) 1.30 Taxi (60903) 2.00 Roseanne (19800) 2.30 Comedy Store (81485) 3.00 Fraser (34090) 3.30 Alexes Sayle (82187) 4.00 Cines

8.00pm Sightings (8209415) 8.30 The Mislang of Kull the Conqueror (8211250) 9.00 FILM: Consan the Destroyer (1984) 9833521 11.00 Findley the 13th (7394785) 12.00 Sightings (9557835) 1.00em The Twinght Zone (2684458) 1.30 Tales of the Unexpected (7736283) 2.00 Derk Shedows (7522380) 2.30 Hischcock (7518187) 3.00 Findley the 13th (8465516) 4.00 Close

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

HOME & LEISURE 9,00em Smpty Panting (892540) 9,30 Garden Celendar (415998) 10,00 Garden Club (1539163) 10,30 Room Service (6996724) 11,00 The House (203576) 11,30 Graham Ren (2035705) 12,00 Julia Châd (898075) 12,30pm Hometime (4153705) 1,00 This Old House (8944160) 130 Naw Yankee Workston (4157076) 1,30 New Yankee Workshop (4152076) 2,00 Doing (Up (5247163) 2,30 Cur House (4854238) 3,00 Cur House (526528) 3,30 Cur House (4859873) 4,00 Close DISCOVERY

4.00pm History's Turning Points (4578908) 4.30 Fire (4867892) 5.00 Connections 2 by James Burke (6238415) 5.30 Juressice II (4858144) 6.00 Wild Guide (4865057) 6.30 Wild at Heart (4879637) 7.00 Invention (6259279) 7.30 History's Turning Points (4868521) 8.00 Arthur C Clarke's Mysteri ous Universe (626/7927) 8,30 Ghoshuniars II (6246434) 9,00 Myrhs of Manland (1375289) 10,00 Crime and Punishment Rogue's Gallery (1345057) 11,00 Force 21 (779827) 12,00 Special Forces: FBI [5309903] 12,30am Fire (205212) History's Turring Points (8865564) 1.30 Connections 2 by James Burke (6481748) 2.00 Close

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm Vernam, the Ten Thousand Dey War (7256453) 8.00 Jerusalem (9093705) 8.00 Ancient Mysteries (2364148) 7.00 Blography James Stewart (1305788) 8.00 Close **CHALLENGE TV** Win with Prize Time twice an hour. 5.00pm Cross Wife 5.30 Sey the Word 6.00 Fernly Fortunes 6.30 Catchphrase 7.15 The \$54,000 Question 8.00 Self Second 8.30 Move on Up 9.15 Winner Takes Al 10.00 Treasure Hunt 11.15 White 12.00 Say the Word 12.30mm Haff to Hart 1.30 De Big Vister 2.20 Alberts, June 3.00 Mer.

The Big Valley 2.30 Mighty Jungle 3.00 My Two Dads 3.30 Where I Live 4.00 National

UK LIVING 6.00am Lucky Ladders 6.35 Lingo 7.00
Tiny Llving 9.00 f Dream of Juannie 9.30
Gordon Elliott 10.10 Jerry Springer 11.00
The Young and the Restless 11.50
Brookside 12.20pm Why Mo? 12.50
Rolonda 1.40 Tempast 2.20 Cheap Che
3.00 Line at Three 4.06 Jurn Springer 5.00
Rolonda 5.50 Licky Ladders 6.20 Ready,
Steady. Cook 7.00 Hearts Afrie 7.30
Mystenss, Magic and Miracles 8.00 Adrenatir Junius 9.00 RtLM: Out of Darkmess
11.00 The Erogenous Zone 12.00 Close
7FEC Try ZEE TV

7.00am Jaagran 7.30 Film Deewane 8.00
Ragher 8.30 Ghoomte Aama 9.00 Menobi
9.30 Neger Pane Roop Neger 10.00 Tara
11.00 The Low Cal Show 11.30 Game
Show 12.00 Dermar 12.30pm Reshet 1.00
Urdu FILM: Samunder 4.00 ZEE Zone
Presents 4.05 Public Demand 5.00 Zone
Time 5.30 The Real Countdown 8.30 ZEE
end You 7.00 Kemal Kombonation 7.30
Baneg April Baat 8.00 News and Euronews
8.30 Dastrain 9.00 Awazzahi 10.00 Filmi
Beatem 10.30 Punush Kishetra 11.30 ZEE
Honor Show 12.00 Close

The 24 hour music channel includes news, reviews, two concert footage, inter-views and the latest music video charts

The video hits channel. Classic rock and



SPEEDWAY 45

Elder statesman defies odds to reach landmark

SPORT

FOOTBALL 49 Given achieves his goal at St James' Park

Unhappy

Brive set

for warm

welcome

By DAVID HANDS

PONTYPRIDD will play their Heineken Cup match with Brive, the holders, at Sardis

Road on Saturday, knowing

that their every action will be under the microscope. "It

would be extremely damaging to Pontypridd if there is trou-

ble," Eddie Jones, the Welsh club's rugby manager, said.
"It could finish us."

It is a message that Ponty-pridd will try to drum home to

their supporters after they and

Brive were each fined £30,000 by the board of European Rugby Cup Ltd (ERC), the

tournament organisers. The fine, imposed after the violent confrontation between the clubs in Brive on September 14, has been split, half to be paid within 2l days and half at

the end of the season, while Dale McIntosh, the No 8 sent off along with Lionel Mallier, of Brive, during the game, is to be charged with bringing the

between players and support-ers that followed later the

same night. However, he con-

fulfil the fixture, though he

findings of the ERC panel,"

Cenydd Thomas, the chief

sensible level of policing, al-

Both clubs realise just how

serious any repetition of vio-lence, on or off the field, could

he. "To be expelled from the

tournament would be a mas-

sive blow, not just financially

but in terms of our credibil-

It is not only the players who will be under scrutiny;

the game on Saturday will be

handled by Gordon Black, from Ireland, a referee who

has yet to establish a reput-

ation in international terms.

ity." Jones said.

lied to efficient stewarding.



DANNY BAKER ON

FOOTBALL

DALLAGLIO

ON RUGBY

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 24 1997

Course provides demanding challenge for Ryder Cup rivals

Teams negotiate learning curve

THE talk subsided here yes terday and was replaced by the crack of club on ball as first Europe and then the United States began to familiarise themselves with the routes and rhythms of the Continent's most distinctive golf course. There is plenty for the competitors in the Ryder Cup to Jearn about Valderrama.

At this course, not far from Gibraltar, there are cork trees overhanging greens and in bunkers, as well as one slap bang in the middle of a fairway. This is not to mention tiny shards of crushed granite in the bunkers that give off a dazzling light. Hardly had darkness lifted



than Thomas Bjorn was ex pressing the mood of the 24 competitors, newcomers and old hands alike. "It's a great feeling to be here at last." Bjorn, who is making his debut, said. "It has been a long way to get here. This is where we want to be. We want to get on with it. There's no running home to mum now.

Severiano Ballesteros, the Europe captain, paired each rookie with a player who has appeared in at least one Ryder Cup. Nick Faldo and Ignacio Garrido halved with the Swedes, Per-Ulrik Johansson and Jesper Parnevik. José Maria Olazábal and Costantino Rocca beat Darren Clarke and Colin Montgomerie 3 and 2, and Bjorn and Bernhard Langer were five up after eight holes against Ian Woosnam and Lee Westwood and eventually won 2 and 1.

Ballesteros made light of having had only four hours'



Woods, the American who produced some massive hitting on the first day of practice, plays to the 10th yesterday. Photograph: Steve Munday/Allsport

sleep and moved around happily in a buggy. He liked came across Woosnam in the trees he made a joke of it. What are you doing here?" he asked. "You're playing like

Considerable time was spent on the 4th and the 17th, the more teasing of the three par-fives. A westerly wind was blowing, making the 4th downwind, and though the green is protected by a water-fall to the right and one bunker which has a tree in it to the left. Clarke could not resist the temptation to go for it.

He hit a two-iron and reached the putting surface. This is big hitting on a 535yard hole, but not as big as Tiger Woods, who some hours later smashed his ball onto the green with a five-iron. His ball ended 12 feet from the flag. The 17th was more trouble-

some. Montgomerie has described it as the worst hole in Europe, which could be interpreted as irreverence as it was partly designed by Balles-teros. There is a strip of rough running across the fairway 290 yards from the tee, and the green, which slopes from back to front, is subtly contoured. If that is not enough, there is a pond in front of the green, which attracts golf balls as

moths are drawn to a candle.

rough across the middle of the fairway and when his ball trickled onto the green and got caught in a gully that swept it down into the sentinel pond. he did not care much for that, either. "The course is in perfect condition," O'Meara said. "Playing from the fairways is like hitting off carpets." But he questioned the need for gim-

Last Sunday, Olazábal was downcast about his golf. Everything was wrong with it. he said, and the safest place for his mother to watch him middle of the fairway. Ballesteros grinned when he heard

doing there.

from the team after refus

suspicion is that he knows

was not very good today," Bal-lesteros said, with heavy sarcasm. "He was only about five under par after eight holes." John Jacobs, the Europe

captain in 1979 and 1981, is the man who helps Olazabal with his swing. Jacobs kept an eye on him for most of his round. I watched him and he played beautifully." Jacobs reported smile on his face as if he had heard Olazábal talk that way before. "He gets very down on himself. He can be a bloody awful putter, except on really fast greens, but there is noth-

Ballesteros has shuffled most of his players slightly for reports that Olazabal was practice today. Bjorn moves to

Garrido and Clarke, two rookies, will have a trial run together. Faldo will play with Westwood and Langer with Woosnam. There is no great secret to doing the pairings." Ballesteros said. "I try to make sure they feel comfortable with one another, are relaxed, full

of confidence." The most confident pair at Valderrama last night were Tom Lehman and Phil Mickelson, who had played Jim Furyk and Jeff Maggert. Lehman was asked what he thought of the course he saw for the first time this week. "I liked it a lot today," the former Open champion said. "I got paid. We took \$120 from Furyk

Hills, the Ryder Cup director,

and Pedro Cardelus, the vice

president of the Spanish Golf

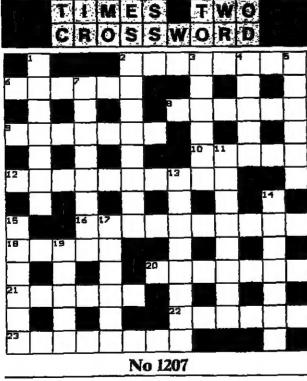
rapprochement was as unex-

"It's over, and I am happy,"

be charged with bringing the competition into disrepute.

The reaction of Patrick Sebastien, the Brive president, was one of incredulity. "It is a shameful and disgusting decision," he said, accusing ERC of confusing violence on the pitch with the bar-room brawl between players and support-SIMON **BARNES** ON HORSE firmed that his club would will urge Brive supporters not Pontypridd were more phlegmatic. "We accept the executive, and, like Jones, a former policeman, said. "We have been dealt with in the context of the match and we are delighted the return will That would have been the most unfair punishment of all if they had decided the game should be played at an alternative venue. There will be a THE THE SKIN OF SPORT

Martin gives peace a chance



ACROSS

- 2 Of the Milky Way (8) 6 Bargain over price (6) 8 NT book after Acts (6) 9 Quakers (7)
- 12 Fellow-citizens; rustics (10) 16 Spa. Gold Cup town (10) 18 Adom: (troop) battle-order

10 Find answer to (problem)

- 20 (Fr.) sweet roll (7) 21 Altitude (6)
- 22 Hitchcock, Lord Tenny-
- 23 Contemptuous (8)
- **SOLUTION TO NO 1206**
- DOWN: 1 Tell-tale 2 Agley 3 Pretty 4 Congeal 5 Peru 6 Hard-and-fast 8 Take the veil 13 Inundate 14 Flutter 16 Salaam 18 Quiff 20 Lett

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Clean

Lover of own land (7)

- 2 fr. policeman (8) 3 Evoke, stir up (6)
- Be behind; rough track (5)
- 5 Jewel box (6)
- 7 Basque town, Picasso painting (8)
- 11 Occasionally (2,3,3)
- 13 Stuff; relevant (8)
- 14 Teller, expel in disgrace (7)
- 15 Anti-climax (6)
- 17 Punctuation in last cive (6) 19 Indian or white animal (5)

ACROSS: 7 Beggar's Opera 9 Ailment 10 Gourd
11 Esau 12 Gyration 15 Heedless 17 Puff 19 Valet 21 Lourdes 22 If the cap fits

TIMES COMPUTER CROSSWORDS for Dated Aberland — Crasswords on Computer 35 distorts circle to criterion of each confidence in the property of the Crasswords on Computer 35 distorts circle to criterion in the Crasswords of the Cras

Mel Webb on an unexpected settlement IT WAS like the dance-hall to the dispute that divided Europe

from hell with added suitcases. Enthusiasm was thick in the warm Spanish air: business or pleasure was on people's minds as they moved through the steps of a stately if slightly disorganised gavotte in search of their luggage. And there, amid the hustle and bustle, sat a man who had had his invitation to the ball withdrawn. He was sitting

this one out. It was Monday evening at Malaga airport and the man with apparently no business. ure, to look forward to was Miguel Angel Martin, and he cut a poignant figure as he guarded his

suitcase.
The suitcase should have contained the polychrome regalia of one of the aristocrats of European golf; the uniform of the Ryder Cup player. For months Martin had expected to be a part of this, only for the frailties of his own body and the clinical and necessarily heartless decision of a committee to take it

Martin, a small, dark man from Huelva, close to the border with Portugal, was a picture of dejection as he watched the faces of the incoming passengers. They were smiling, and so, in other circumstances, would he have that there might not be another chance. He had been, but there was not much played his way into tenth room for cheer in his life. His place on the qualifying list, and if he was not body language was that of a man who did not quite know where he was, or what he was to play, he would like to

have made the decision for Martin injured his wrist in July, had an operation and From there the matter took was then summarily dropped an ugly turn; lawyers were consulted on both sides, there was talk of litigation, to take a fitness test. At 35. he is an honest yeoman who has spokesmen on the opposition never been a contender for benches almost refused, ostrich-like, to admit that he golf's great prizes, and the

existed. Severiano Ballesteros, the captain, who, when Martin challenged his exclusion, responded by saying with brutal honesty that Martin had not been welcome before and was certainly not welcome now, refused to speak of him

on Monday. When asked again yesterday to comment on the matter, he refused, stony-faced, to In the midst of such bitter-

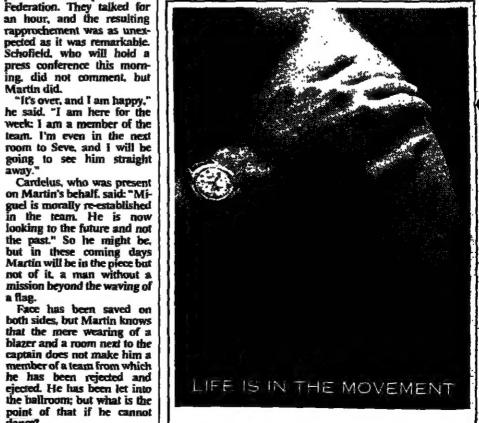
ness, there seemed no chance of a negotiated settlement when Martin went into a with Ken Schofield, the executive director of the PGA

he said. "I am here for the week: I am a member of the team. I'm even in the next room to Seve, and I will be going to see him straight Cardelus, who was present on Martin's behalf, said: "Mi-

Martin did.

guel is morally re-established in the team. He is now looking to the future and not the past." So he might be, but in these coming days Martin will be in the piece but not of it, a man without a mission beyond the waving of

Face has been saved on both sides, but Martin knows that the mere wearing of a blazer and a room next to the captain does not make him a member of a team from which he has been rejected and ejected. He has been let into the hallroom; but what is the



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Forest in plea for European place

By ROB HLGHES

THERE is good news, and bad, for Nothingham Forest in their attempts to gain compensation for their defeat in the 1984 Uefa Cup semi-final when Ander-

lecht, their opponents, bribed the referee. Former Forest players, including Steve Hodge and Paul Hart, who had a goal disallowed, will find that there is no legal action they can take for lost earnings in the criminal courts, either in Belgium or Switzerland, where Uefa has its headquarters. Neither country recognises sporting fraud" as a crime.

However, Forest's lawyers believe that they can win in excess of £1.5 million in damages through civil court action. particularly now that Uefa has fully admitted that Anderlecht paid Guruceta

£20,000 after the second leg of the tie in which the Belgian club recovered from 2-0 down to win 3-2 on aggregate. Yesterday, Uefa confirmed that Ray-

mond De Deken, the club liaison officer who made the payment to the referee, is persona non grata, unwelcome at any level in football on the Continent. Constant Vanden Stock, the former Anderlecht chairman, who admitted in a civil court that he arranged the payment, is beyond Uefa reproach now that he is not

in the game. Anderlecht have been banned from the next European season for which they qualify and Forest yesterday came up with an inventive plea. They want to be granted the place of Anderjecht the next time that the Belgian club does qualify.

Uefa, admitted that the ban would victimise Belgian players who were not old enough to be involved in 1984. "As always, somebody suffers," Johansson

"But we think the ban is a fair one, it is not a legal punishment but an ethical and moral. It leaves us for the moment with the problem of Nottingham Forest; they are the victims."

Johansson is trying to discover why a package from the Belgian FA, addressed to him in 1992, was not handed to him until a few days ago. "We know about the bribery, we now have to clarify the internal situation at Uefa," he said.

> Brian Glanville, page 48 Given's goal, page 49

